



RATING SYSTEM

LEED v5 FOR CITIES

**PUBLIC COMMENT 2
MAY 2026**

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SCORECARD

Impact Area Key	
Decarb.	Decarbonization
QL	Quality of Life
Ecol.	Ecological Conservation and Restoration

LEED v5 Cities Scorecard		Points	Impact Area		
IP	Integrative Planning and Preparedness	7	Decarb.	QL	Ecol.
IPp1	Ecosystem Assessment	Required			•
IPp2	Human Impact Assessment	Required		•	
IPp3	Carbon Assessment	Required	•		
IPp4	Resilience Assessment	Required		•	
IPc1	Integrative Planning and Leadership	1	•	•	•
IPc2	Participatory Planning and Engagement	1		•	
IPc3	Climate Action Plan	1	•		
IPc4	Resilience Plan	1		•	
IPc5	Enhanced Resilience	3		•	•
NB	Natural and Built Environment	19	Decarb.	QL	Ecol.
NBp1	Natural and Built Environment Data Reporting	Required		•	•
NBc1	Natural and Built Environment Performance	4		•	•
NBc2	Heat Island Reduction	2	•	•	•
NBc3	Natural Resources Conservation and Restoration	2			•
NBc4	Light, Air, and Noise Quality Management	3		•	•
NBc5	Accessible and Inclusive Open Spaces	2	•	•	•
NBc6	Compact, Mixed-Use, and Transit-Oriented Development	2	•	•	•
NBc7	Land Use and Planning Policy	1	•	•	•
NBc8	Civic Leadership—Environmental Policies and Incentives	3	•	•	•
CW	Community Well-Being	17	Decarb.	QL	Ecol.
CWc1	Housing Affordability	2	•	•	
CWc2	Social Infrastructure and Services	2	•	•	
CWc3	Environmental Justice	3	•	•	•
CWc4	Public Health	2		•	
CWc5	Educational Opportunity and Attainment	2		•	
CWc6	Workforce Development	2		•	
CWc7	Economic Growth and Opportunity	2		•	
CWc8	Civic Leadership—Planning and Social Support	2		•	

TM	Transportation and Mobility	14
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TMp1	Transportation Data Reporting	Required
TMc1	Transportation Performance	4
TMc2	Safe and Affordable Public Transit Services	2
TMc3	Electric Vehicles	2
TMc4	Mobility Management	2
TMc5	Active Travel	2
TMc6	Civic Leadership—Transportation and Resilience	2

Decarb.	QL	Ecol.
•		
•		
•	•	
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•	•	•
•	•	
•	•	

WM	Water Management	12
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WMp1	Water Data Reporting	Required
WMc1	Water Performance	4
WMc2	Water Efficiency and Supply Management	2
WMc3	Water Infrastructure	2
WMc4	Stormwater Management	2
WMc5	Civic Leadership—Water Affordability and Resilience	2

Decarb.	QL	Ecol.
•	•	•
•	•	•
	•	•
•	•	•
	•	•
•	•	•

EC	Energy and Carbon Management	20
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ECp1	Carbon Data Reporting	Required
ECc1	Carbon Performance	4
ECc2	Energy Efficiency and Decarbonization	5
ECc3	Infrastructure Energy Efficiency	3
ECc4	Energy-Efficient Civic Buildings	3
ECc5	Renewable Energy	3
ECc6	Civic Leadership—Energy Resilience and Carbon	2

Decarb.	QL	Ecol.
•		
•		
•		
•		
•		
•		
•	•	

WR	Waste Reduction and Circularity	11
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WRp1	Waste Data Reporting	Required
WRc1	Waste Performance	4
WRc2	Special and Organic Waste Streams Management	2
WRc3	Embodied Carbon Reduction	2
WRc4	Community-Centric Material Recovery and Reuse	1
WRc5	Civic Leadership—Procurement and Resilience	2

Decarb.	QL	Ecol.
•		•
•		•
•		•
•		•
•		•
•		•

PR	Project Priorities	10
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PRc1	Project Priorities	10
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Decarb.	QL	Ecol.
•	•	•

Total Possible Points		110
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INTEGRATIVE PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS (IP)

IP PREREQUISITE: ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT

IPp1

REQUIRED

Intent

To assess ecosystem conditions and services across natural and built landscapes to inform ecologically balanced and resilient urban development and enhanced quality of life for residents.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	N/A
Ecosystem Assessment	

Conduct an ecosystem assessment that includes information from the following topics, as applicable.

Pollution Sources and Threats:

- a. Noise, water, and air pollution levels for the city and significant sources for high pollution levels (if detected)
- b. Brownfield, Superfund, and other hazardous waste sites
- c. Invasive plant species and areas of their extensive growth

AND

Include information on at least three of the following topics:

1. Physical Geography:

- a. Climate
- b. Biome and ecoregion
- c. Contour mapping
- d. Unique topographic features highlighting landforms, watercourses, and vegetation

2. Soils:

- a. Identification of prime farmland, unique farmland, or farmland of statewide or local importance
- b. Healthy soil
- c. Soils disturbed by previous development and degree of disturbance

3. Terrestrial Vegetation:

- a. Forests, grasslands, desert or arid areas, and other largely undeveloped spaces
- b. Existing vegetated areas, including parks, gardens, green roofs, and urban tree canopies
- c. Urban farms and community gardens including those in vacant lots
- d. Primary vegetation types, native plants, and plant communities, special status vegetation

4. Terrestrial Habitat:

- a. Key biodiversity areas; environmentally sensitive habitat areas
- b. Habitats affected by degradation and fragmentation

5. Hydrology and Aquatic Ecosystems:

- a. Wetlands, lakes, beaches, and streams
- b. Environmentally sensitive habitat areas, degraded water bodies
- c. Watershed and groundwater health, potable and nonpotable water sources

Explain how the city will use assessment results to align policies, plans, strategies, and programs to track and improve ecosystem conditions and services.

IP PREREQUISITE: HUMAN IMPACT ASSESSMENT

IPp2

REQUIRED

Intent

To identify disparities across neighborhoods and sociocultural groups and guide equitable planning and delivery of city services, investments, and policies that improve quality of life for residents.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	N/A
Human Impact Assessment	

Conduct a city-wide Human Impact Assessment to identify inequities in quality of life and public health outcomes and the underlying drivers of those inequities. Include information about the following topics as applicable. Identify *priority neighborhoods* with the highest cumulative needs and priority populations experiencing disproportionate impacts.

1. Land Use and Population Profile:

- a. **Demographics:** race and ethnicity, gender, age, population density, income, employment rate, education levels, household types, unhoused and housed population, health status, and crime rates
- b. **Local Development Patterns:** land use development, zoning and development history, and relevant local or regional sustainability goals/commitments

2. Distribution of Services:

- a. **Utility Services and Infrastructure:**
 - o Drinking water supply and sanitary wastewater services
 - o Grid or on-site renewable electricity sources
 - o Municipal or contracted solid waste services
- b. **Healthcare and Social Infrastructure:** hospitals/health services, parks, libraries, recreation centers, schools, childcare centers, fire stations, police stations, internet (broadband) connectivity, and supermarket/grocery stores with a produce section

3. Identification of Compact and Complete Centers (CCCs):

Quantify the number of CCCs measured as areas within a ½-mile (800-meter) radius of prominent sites, per Table 1

Table 1. Minimum Number of CCCs Required per City's Permanent Population

Permanent Population of the City	≥ 1 million	750,000– 1 million	500,000– 749,999	250,000– 499,999	100,000– 249,999	30,000– 99,999	≤30,000
Number of CCCs	10	9	8	6	4	2	1

Explain how the city will use assessment results to align policies, plans, strategies, and programs to track and improve quality of life and public health.

IP PREREQUISITE: CARBON ASSESSMENT

IPp3

REQUIRED

Intent

To facilitate identification of opportunities for emission reduction to minimize their impact on climate change by tracking city-wide carbon emissions.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	N/A
Carbon Assessment	

Report city-wide carbon emissions inventory covering Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions for 12 consecutive months within the last five years. Address the activities of the following sectors (or as defined in the selected greenhouse gas [GHG] protocol) within the city boundary:

- Stationary energy (buildings, facilities, manufacturing and construction activities, fugitive emissions)
- Transportation (road, rail, water, air)
- Waste* (solid waste and wastewater)
- Other sectors (if applicable) within the city boundary, such as industrial process and product use and agriculture, forestry and other land use

*Include all carbon emissions from the disposal and treatment of waste generated within the city boundary, whether it is treated in a facility inside or outside the city boundary.

Report total carbon emissions in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e), encompassing all GHG types.

Protocol/framework must align with *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, with the revisions informed by *2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*.

IP PREREQUISITE: RESILIENCE ASSESSMENT

IPp4

REQUIRED

Intent

To reduce exposure and protect livelihoods from extreme events by understanding the potential risks and their impact on at-risk populations and critical infrastructures.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	N/A
Resilience Assessment	

Using any hazard identification and risk assessment methodology available at the national, state, or local level, conduct a resilience assessment of the city.

Include the following steps in the assessment:

1. **Hazard Identification:** Identify observed, projected, and future hazards that could potentially affect the city. Study their characteristics, frequency, and potential severity and estimate the probability of occurrence of hazards.
2. **Exposure, Vulnerability, and Capacity Assessment:**
 - a. Exposure: Map and quantify population, buildings, critical infrastructure, and ecosystems located in hazard-prone areas.
 - b. Vulnerability: Assess the vulnerability of population, buildings, critical infrastructure, and ecosystems to the identified hazards.
 - c. Adaptive Capacity: Assess the gap in adaptive capacity of the city to the identified hazards. Use findings from *IPp1 Ecosystem Assessment* and *IPp2 Human Impact Assessment* as appropriate to inform the evaluation of exposure, vulnerability, and adaptive capacity of population, buildings, critical infrastructure, and ecosystems.
3. **Risk Assessment:** Using the data from the previous steps, assess current and future hazards based on their frequency of occurrence and impact on population, buildings, critical infrastructure, and ecosystems and prioritize these risks based on an understanding of likelihood and consequence(s).

4. **Priority Identification:** Identify at least the top three hazards as prioritized risks based on risk assessment. Identify population, buildings, critical infrastructure, and ecosystems at risk from these prioritized risks.

IP CREDIT: INTEGRATIVE PLANNING AND LEADERSHIP

IPc1

1 point

Intent

To encourage cross-departmental collaboration to deliver high-performance, cost-effective solutions that advance LEED certification and enhance city performance over time.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1
Option 1. Integrated Leadership for LEED Certification	1
OR	
Option 2. Sustainable City Roadmap	1

Option 1. Integrated Leadership for LEED Certification (1 point)

Meet the following requirements:

1. **Integrated Planning Team:** Assemble and convene an interdisciplinary and cross-departmental team. Include team members from at least three different areas of expertise that are relevant to urban sustainability and resilience planning and execution.

AND

2. Engage the interdisciplinary team to ensure understanding of the rating system prerequisites and credits and attainment of LEED certification using the following strategies:
 - a. **LEED Workshop:** Conduct at least two workshops (in-person or virtual) after forming the team on rating system requirements and certification process.
 - b. **Gap Analysis:** Assess the existing status of the city against the LEED prerequisite and credit requirements.
 - c. **Goal Setting and Action Planning:** Identify the targeted LEED certification level, the credits that will be pursued to achieve it, and the responsible parties for each credit and prerequisite. Develop an action plan to accomplish these goals.

OR

Option 2. Sustainable City Roadmap (1 point)

Meet the following requirements:

1. **Integrated Planning Team:** Assemble and convene an interdisciplinary and cross-departmental team. Include team members from at least three different areas of expertise that are relevant to urban sustainability and resilience planning and execution.

AND

2. Convene the interdisciplinary team at least twice per year through meetings and/or workshops (in person or virtual) to complete the following steps:
 - a. **Gap Analysis:** Analyze existing city-planning documents (e.g., comprehensive, sustainability, climate, or other appropriate plans) to evaluate the integration of sustainability across key development sectors and develop a gap analysis report identifying areas for improvement.
 - b. **Roadmap Development:** Develop a vision, objectives, and goals for the sustainable development of the city to achieve improved performance. Identify metrics, improvement strategies, and actions to be integrated in the future policies/development or comprehensive plans of the city (for at least three departments) to improve the city's performance.
 - c. **Roadmap Implementation:** Identify responsible entities to implement the metrics, improvement strategies, and actions. Develop a monitoring and evaluation framework with expected completion date and estimated budget and/or required staffing to track the city's progress and publish the progress through annual reports or public-facing dashboards.

IP CREDIT: PARTICIPATORY PLANNING AND ENGAGEMENT

IPc2

1 point

Intent

To ensure inclusive and transparent community engagement in planning, decision-making, and implementation that advances procedural equity and builds trust between the city and its communities.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1
Option 1. Community Engagement	1
Path 1. Local Advisory Boards	1
OR	
Path 2. Outreach and Engagement	1
OR	
Option 2. Transparent and Participatory Governance	1

Option 1. Community Engagement (1 point)

PATH 1. LOCAL ADVISORY BOARDS (1 POINT)

Adopt a policy that establishes criteria for city advisory boards and commissions appointments to reflect the city's demographic composition and that outlines strategies to address disparities and enhance representative diversity.

OR

PATH 2. OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT (1 POINT)

Design and implement engagement processes using diverse platforms and formats.

Actively engage underrepresented groups through targeted outreach and context-sensitive methods that accommodate varying levels of time, access, and comfort with participation.

OR

Option 2. Transparent and Participatory Governance (1 point)

Host a publicly available online dashboard that formalizes public participation processes and displays public meeting dates and agendas, along with relevant city initiatives, strategies, and programs to recognize inclusive planning.

IP CREDIT: CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

IPc3

1 point

Intent

To encourage cities to outline measurable strategies that accelerate the reduction of carbon emissions and build climate resilience in sectors projected to be impacted by climate hazards.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1
Climate Action Plan	1

Develop a Climate Action Plan to accelerate the reduction of carbon emissions and achieve at least 80% city-wide carbon emissions reduction by 2050. The plan must meet the following requirements:

- 1. Stakeholder Engagement:** Constitute a diverse and inclusive group of key parties, such as residents, businesses and/or institutions, municipal and state officials, technical experts or advisory groups, representatives of vulnerable populations and indigenous groups, to gather insights and feedback.
- 2. Vision and Objectives:**
 - a. Geographic and/or administrative boundary of the city
 - b. Carbon emission reduction target with interim and short-term goals
 - c. City-wide carbon emission inventory for the base year (must include Scope 1 and Scope 2; Scope 3 is optional) with breakdown by sector and the business-as-usual projection of city-wide carbon emissions through 2050.
- 3. Implementation and Monitoring:**
 - a. Outline initiatives for each sector and ensure that each initiative addresses the following points:
 - o Implementation timeline
 - o Estimated impact on carbon emissions
 - o Implementation processes, such as passing an ordinance, creating a city-wide policy, funding a program, planning, and working with the state or province
 - o Estimated budget and/or required staffing
 - b. Method for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting the impacts of the initiatives

IP CREDIT: RESILIENCE PLAN

IPc4

1 point

Intent

To foster public participation in measurable risk reduction and preparedness actions, supported by ongoing monitoring to protect human health and safety and minimize socioeconomic disruption.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1
Resilience Plan	1

Develop a Resilience Plan that aims at mitigation of and/or adaptation to the *prioritized risks* identified under *IPp4: Resilience Assessment*. The plan must include the following requirements:

- 1. Stakeholder Engagement:** Constitute a diverse and inclusive group of key parties, such as residents, businesses and/or institutions, municipal and state officials, technical experts or advisory groups, representatives of vulnerable population groups, and indigenous groups, to gather feedback and insights on adaptation and mitigation of *prioritized risks*.
- 2. Vision and Objectives:**
 - a. Based on the findings of the *IPp4: Resilience Assessment*, develop the vision, objectives, and goals for the mitigation of and/or adaptation to the *prioritized risks*. Align the objectives with the city's overall vision.
 - b. Identify priorities, actions, projects, and activities to address risk mitigation and adaptation goals.
 - c. Establish short-, medium-, and long-term actions to implement the programs per the city planning cycle.
- 3. Implementation and Monitoring:**
 - a. Identify the resources and responsible entities, such as agencies, organizations, individuals, and communities, and available collaboration and cost-sharing opportunities, to complete each risk mitigation and adaptation action.
 - b. Develop metrics to monitor and evaluate the risk mitigation and adaptation actions. Include a clear framework for implementation and reporting with expected completion date, funding source, and status.
 - c. Plan for annual meetings to be held with relevant parties and communities to update them on the process and understand barriers in implementation.

- d. Identify the entity responsible for monitoring the implementation of resilience plans.
- e. Specify the process for periodic evaluation of the resilience plan, publishing the information through annual reports or public-facing dashboards.

IP CREDIT: ENHANCED RESILIENCE

IPc5

1–3 points

Intent

To reduce loss of life, livelihood, and assets; strengthen recovery and reconstruction preparedness; build resilience to *prioritized risks*; and support the city's long-term public health and economic vitality.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–3
Option 1. Risk Mitigation	1–2
AND/OR	
Option 2. Preparedness	1–2

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Risk Mitigation (1–2 points)

Demonstrate that risk has been reduced to at least one at-risk population, building(s), critical infrastructure, or ecosystem identified under *IPp4: Resilience Assessment* by adopting any of following the strategies for 1 point each:

- Implement nature-based and/or engineering solutions in compliance with national, state, or local standards to reduce at least one *prioritized risk* as identified under *IPp4: Resilience Assessment*.
- Adopt policies on risk-informed zoning and/or limitation of construction in vulnerable zones and/or protective setbacks.
- Incorporate building structure resilience in building regulations to enhance the structural resilience of new and/or existing buildings to the *prioritized risks*.
- Support voluntary relocation of at-risk population and/or critical infrastructure away from hazard-prone zones. Ensure adequate infrastructure in destination areas to support relocated populations.

AND/ OR

Option 2. Preparedness (1–2 points)

Demonstrate an increase in preparedness and adaptive capacity by implementing at least one of the following strategies for 1 point each. Each strategy must address at least top 2 *prioritized risks* as identified under *IPp4: Resilience Assessment*:

- a. Provide a network of resilience hubs that promote education on disaster preparedness and/or act as a relief or emergency shelters during emergencies. Ensure the emergency shelters are capable of remaining operational and providing passive survivability during *prioritized risk* events.
- b. Provide early warning systems integrated with hazard monitoring, forecasting, and prediction and communication systems that enable residents to act in advance to reduce the impacts of the identified *prioritized risks*.
- c. Develop logistic plans for preemergency staging and postemergency distribution of food, water, medical supplies, and relief materials.
- d. Develop emergency preparedness and response plans including clear communication protocols, emergency evacuation plans, identification of emergency response shelters, and accessible transportation assistance.
- e. Develop operational protocols to support continued operations of critical facilities during and after emergencies.
- f. Develop predisaster recovery plans with finance and governance mechanisms.

NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT (NB)

NB PREREQUISITE: NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT DATA REPORTING

NBp1

REQUIRED

Intent

To facilitate identification of opportunities for ecosystem conservation and restoration of natural ecosystems by assessing the spatial equity, environmental, and ecological health of the city.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	N/A
Proximity to Parks	
AND	
Vegetation Cover	

Proximity to Parks

Report the percentage of population residing within ½ mile (800 meters) proximity of a park. Provide data for a year that is within the last five years.

AND

Vegetation Cover

Report the vegetation cover within city limits. Provide data for a year that is within the last five years.

Vegetation cover is defined as the percentage of vegetation cover within city limits, based on either tree canopy cover or Normalized Difference Vegetation Index data.

NB CREDIT: NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT PERFORMANCE

NBc1

1–4 points

Intent

To recognize and reward cities' efforts in conservation and restoration of natural ecosystems to enhance the ecological integrity and overall quality of life for city residents.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–4
Option 1. Proximity to Parks	1–2
AND/OR	
Option 2. Vegetation Cover	1–2

Comply with any of the following options for a maximum of 4 points.

Option 1. Proximity to Parks (1–2 points)

Refer to *NBp1: Natural and Built Environment Data Reporting* for associated requirements. No further data entry or calculations are required for this credit.

Points are awarded per Table 1.

Table 1. LEED Points for Proximity to Park Performance

Population Residing Within ½ Mile (800 Meters) Proximity of Parks	Points
≥65% to <85%	1
≥85%	2

AND/OR

Option 2. Vegetation Cover (1–2 points)

Refer to *NBp1: Natural and Built Environment Data Reporting* for associated requirements. No further data entry or calculations are required for this credit. Points are awarded per Table 2.

Table 2. LEED Points for Vegetation Cover Performance

Vegetation Cover Within City Limits			Points
Forest climates	Grassland and semiarid climates	Desert and tundra climates	
≥25% to <35%	≥15% to <25%	≥5% to <15%	1
≥35%	≥25%	≥15%	2

NB CREDIT: HEAT ISLAND REDUCTION

NBc2

1–2 points

Intent

To minimize heat island and extreme heat impacts on microclimates and habitats and improve thermal comfort, air quality, and energy efficiency for a healthier and more livable city.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. City-Wide Heat Island Reduction	1–2
Path 1. Performance Pathway	2
OR	
Path 2. Prescriptive Pathway	1–2
AND/OR	
Option 2. Heat Island Reduction Policies	1

Comply with any of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. City-Wide Heat Island Reduction (2 points)

PATH 1. PERFORMANCE PATHWAY (2 POINTS):

Demonstrate at least 5% improvement in one of the following the city-wide heat island reduction strategies in the reporting year from a user-defined baseline year. The selected baseline year must fall within the last five years. Use any of the following strategies to show improvement:

- Increased tree canopy cover within the city
- Increased natural resource acreage within the city
- Reduction in surface and/or air temperature of the city
- Increase in the albedo mapping of the city

Natural resource areas include, but are not limited to, undeveloped and uninhabited topographic features, soils, terrestrial vegetation, terrestrial habitat, hydrology, and aquatic ecosystems as identified in *IPp1: Ecosystem Assessment*. Green spaces as defined in *NBc5: Accessible and Inclusive Open Spaces* can be included within the natural resource area calculation.

OR

PATH 2. PRESCRIPTIVE PATHWAY (1–2 POINTS)

Use a combination of heat island mitigating strategies for shading, roofing, and surface materials listed below to reduce heat island in city infrastructure and city-operated public spaces. Points are awarded per Table 1.

Shading Materials

- a. Shading materials with an aged solar reflectance index (SRI) of at least 32 (if aged value information is not available, use materials with an initial SRI of at least 39).
- b. Structures covered by energy-generation systems, such as solar thermal collectors, photovoltaics, wind turbines, and vegetated structures.
- c. Architectural devices or structures. All roofs with an aged solar reflectance (SR) value of at least 0.28 as measured in accordance with *ANSI/CRRC S100*, and for other structures and cases where aged SR information is not available have an initial SR of at least 0.33 as measured in accordance with *ANSI/CRRC S100*.
- d. Shade over pavement areas measured in plain view at noon with existing or new native/adapted plants, assuming 10-year canopy.

Roofing Materials

- a. Green roofs using native or adapted plant species.
- b. High-reflectance roofing materials that have an aged SRI value equal to or greater than 64 for a low-sloped roof and 32 for a steep-sloped roof as measured in accordance with *ANSI/CRRC S100*. If aged SRI is not available, have an initial SRI value equal to or greater than 82 for a low-sloped roof and 39 for a steep-sloped roof as measured in accordance with *ANSI/CRRC S100*.

Surface Materials

- a. Paving materials with an initial SR value of at least 0.33.
- b. An open-grid pavement system (at least 50% unbound).

Table 1. Areas With Heat Island–Mitigating Strategies (Shading, Roofing, or Surface Materials)

City Infrastructure and Public Space Areas	Points
≥5% to <20%	1
≥20%	2

AND/OR

Option 2. Heat Island Reduction Policies (1 point)

Adopt one of the following city-wide policies for heat island reduction:

- a. Cool Roof Policy: Green roof and/or cool roof coatings on low-sloped roofs (2:12 pitch) for new roofs and re-roofing. Cool roof material must exhibit an initial SR of at least 0.60 and an initial thermal emittance of at least 0.75 as measured in accordance with *ANSI/CRRC S100*.
- b. Cool Wall Policy: Cool wall materials in exterior walls must include guidelines for equator-opposing walls. Cool wall material must be opaque to sunlight, exhibit an initial solar reflectance of at least 0.40, and have an initial thermal emittance of at least 0.75.
- c. Cool Surface Policy: Cool and permeable pavements for paved open spaces in private buildings with materials such as conventional asphalt or concrete pavements and other reflective pavements, such as resin-based pavements, colored asphalt and colored concrete, and vegetated and nonvegetated permeable pavements.

NB CREDIT: NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION

NBc3

1–2 points

Intent

To reduce climate risks and improve residents' well-being by conserving natural resources, restoring degraded areas, improving habitats, and promoting biodiversity within the city.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Protection of Environmentally Sensitive Habitats	
AND	
Option 1. Natural Resource Conservation and Restoration	2
AND/OR	
Option 2. Biodiversity Enhancement	1–2
Biodiversity Index	1
AND	
Enhanced Biodiversity Index	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. Natural Resource Management	1

Protection of Environmentally Sensitive Habitats:

Demonstrate no net loss of *environmentally sensitive habitat areas*, as identified under *IPp1: Ecosystem Assessment*, from a user-defined baseline year. The selected baseline year must fall within the last five years.

AND

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Natural Resource Conservation and Restoration (2 points)

Demonstrate an increase of at least 5% in conservation and/or restoration of terrestrial and aquatic habitats as identified under *IPp1: Ecosystem Assessment* from a user-defined baseline year. The

selected baseline year must fall within the last five years. Use any combination of the following strategies to show improvement:

- a. Improve degraded terrestrial and aquatic areas through conservation and restoration strategies, such as reforestation and afforestation, soil and water rehabilitation, and habitat restoration.
- b. Control and manage the spread of invasive species using integrated pest management strategies.
- c. Improve habitat connectivity.
- d. Protect riparian area functions in floodplains; implement passive or active riparian restoration programs on public lands to enhance the ecological functions of degraded floodplain areas.

AND/OR

Option 2. Biodiversity Enhancement (1–2 points)

Biodiversity Index (1 Point):

Using the information collected under *IPp1: Ecosystem Assessment*, develop a biodiversity index of the city as per any recognized framework. Commit to updating the index at least once every five years to track progress.

AND/OR

Enhanced Biodiversity Index (1 Point):

Develop and implement strategies to demonstrate an increasing trend in at least two biodiversity index metrics from a user-defined baseline year. The selected baseline year must fall within the last five years.

AND/OR

Option 3. Natural Resource Management (1 point)

Develop and implement a natural resource management plan that includes at least three of the following strategies:

- a. Control of city-identified priority invasive species to prevent their population growth and expansion
- b. Preferred plant ordinance for private and public landscaping (including information on local species that minimizes damage from invasive species and enhances biodiversity and ecosystem services)
- c. Integrated pest management techniques that use nontoxic maintenance measures for ecologically sensitive areas and human use areas (e.g., areas for children and pets, food production areas within the city boundary)
- d. Community engagement programs on maintenance of existing natural resources

NB CREDIT: LIGHT, AIR, AND NOISE QUALITY MANAGEMENT

NBc4

1–3 points

Intent

To protect public health and integrity of ecological systems by reducing the impact of environmental degradation caused by urban growth and infrastructure.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–3
Option 1. Light Pollution Management	1–2
Path 1. Protect Night Sky Access	2
OR	
Path 2. Lighting Ordinance	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. Air Quality Management	1–2
Path 1. Performance Pathway	2
OR	
Path 2. Prescriptive Pathway	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. Noise Quality Management	1–2
Path 1. Performance Pathway	2
OR	
Path 2. Prescriptive Pathway	1

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 3 points.

Option 1. Light Pollution Management (2 points)

PATH 1. PROTECT NIGHT SKY ACCESS (2 POINTS)

Meet all of the following requirements:

- Uplighting Criteria:** Adopt a city-wide policy prohibiting all uplighting for street and public space lighting.

- b. **Fully Shielded Criteria:** Develop and implement a plan requiring all new streetlights and public lights to conform with the *IES TM-15-20* Backlight, Uplight, and Glare classification of outdoor lighting fixtures to ensure that only fully shielded fixtures are used.
- c. Replace existing streetlights that do not meet the uplighting or fully shielded criteria. Demonstrate at least 5% improvement in the reporting year from a user-defined baseline year. The selected baseline year must fall within the last five years.

OR

PATH 2. LIGHTING ORDINANCE (1 POINT)

Develop and implement a city-wide lighting ordinance or required standard conforming to DarkSky Municipal Ordinance Template and User Guide.

AND/OR

Option 2. Air Quality Management (1–2 points)

PATH 1. PERFORMANCE PATHWAY (2 POINTS)

Demonstrate at least a 10% reduction in the annual number of days with an air quality index greater than 100 in the reporting year from a user-defined baseline year. The selected baseline year must fall within the last five years.

OR

PATH 2. PRESCRIPTIVE PATHWAY (1 POINT)

Demonstrate compliance with two of the following:

- a. Develop and implement anti-idling regulations in public spaces.
- b. Develop and implement public outreach programs intended to raise awareness of air quality issues and drive behavioral changes.
- c. Develop and implement targeted programs that require use of low emitting or zero-emissions equipment.
- d. Develop and implement regulations requiring all indoor and outdoor public spaces to be 100% smoking-free.
- e. Collaborate with high polluters for voluntary carbon emissions reductions beyond the mandatory requirements per the applicable standards.

AND/OR

Option 3. Noise Quality Management (1–2 points)

PATH 1. PERFORMANCE PATHWAY (2 POINTS)

Demonstrate that daytime ambient noise levels do not exceed 55 dBa in 90% of the residential areas with high pollution levels as identified under *IPp1: Ecosystem Assessment*. Use data within the last five years.

OR

PATH 2. PRESCRIPTIVE PATHWAY (1 POINT)

Demonstrate compliance with two of the following:

- a. Adopt policy promoting low-noise municipal waste collection vehicles and/or electrification of construction equipment.
- b. Develop and implement regulations prohibiting excessive continuous or intermittent noise from industrial, commercial, and construction activities adjacent to residential areas through time restrictions.
- c. Develop and implement enforcement duties and corrective measures in case of noncompliance with the regulations.
- d. Prepare and maintain a noise map of the city, which is updated every five years, identifying noise sources factors affecting sound propagation and designating quiet areas.
- e. Provide traditional sound barriers and/or green infrastructure to control noise from industries, recreational spaces, and highways.
- f. Provide warning signage in quiet zones and noise hazard zones.

NB CREDIT: ACCESSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE OPEN SPACES

NBc5

1–2 points

Intent

To provide accessible and inclusive open spaces that positively impact the physical and mental health and well-being of the community while also enhancing the environmental quality of the city.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Provision of Open Green Space	1–2
Path 1. Allocation of Public Green Spaces	1
AND/OR	
Path 2. Active Recreational Spaces	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. Accessibility and Inclusivity	1

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Provision of Open Spaces (1–2 points)

PATH 1. ALLOCATION OF PUBLIC GREEN SPACES (1 POINT):

Provide publicly accessible green space area covering 15% or more of the total city area.

AND/OR

PATH 2. OPEN RECREATIONAL SPACES (1 POINT)

Provide two of the following spaces within a ½-mile (800-meter) buffer of at least 70% of the city's residential areas:

- Athletic field and/or court
- Trail network
- Play space geared toward children
- All-weather fitness zone
- Co-located adult and child physical activity space

Note: Green space is defined as land that is partly or completely covered with trees, shrubs, grass, or other climatically/regionally appropriate vegetation. This includes urban parks, trails and community gardens, cemeteries, accessible vegetated roofs, and natural blue spaces surrounded by vegetation. Green or blue spaces that are privately owned or have restricted access are not included.

AND/OR

Option 2. Accessibility and Inclusivity (1 point):

Ensure that at least 2 open spaces that collectively comprise at least 10% of the total open space area considered for the open spaces' calculation meet the following requirements:

- a. **ADA Compliance:** Meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or relevant national or local guidelines.

AND

- b. **Wayfinding:** Provide wayfinding maps or signage that clearly indicate exits, entrances, and major functions in the top three languages (based on population profile of the surrounding neighborhood population).

AND

Provide one of the following features:

- c. **Interactive Educational and Recreational Spaces:** An area that includes elements of human interaction, education and recreational activities within the community, such as observation platforms, paths, nature centers, botanical gardens, meditation spaces, and art gallery.
- d. **Community Gardens:** Space dedicated to community gardens or shared urban food production.
- e. **Inclusive Design Features:** Design children's play areas with inclusive design features, equipment, and materials to facilitate enhanced safety and comfort for children and caregivers.

NB CREDIT: COMPACT, MIXED-USE, AND TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT

NBc6

1–2 points

Intent

To encourage compact mixed-use centers that enable people to access diverse uses and destinations and permit them to meet their daily needs without reliance on single-occupant vehicles.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Compact and Complete Centers (CCC) Density	1–2
AND/OR	
Option 2. Access to Diverse Uses	1–2
AND/OR	
Option 3. Public Transit Availability	1

Based on the number of CCCs identified and quantified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment* comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. CCC Density (1–2 points)

Demonstrate that each CCC achieves the density per acre/per hectare of buildable land as listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Points for Density per Acre (Hectare) of Buildable Land

Residential Density		Nonresidential Density (Floor Area Ratio)	Combined Density		Points
DU/Acre	DU/Hectare		Square Feet per Acre of Buildable Land	Square Meters per Hectare of Buildable Land	
≥7 to <12	≥17.5 to <30	≥0.5 to <0.8	≥22,000 to <35,000	≥5,050 to <8,035	1
≥12	≥30	≥0.8	≥35,000	≥8,035	2

AND/OR

Option 2. Access to Diverse Uses (1–2 points)

Demonstrate that each CCC meets the requirement in Table 3 via walk score or proximity to publicly accessible diverse uses (Table 3) within a ½-mile (800-meter) walking distance. Points are awarded per Table 2.

Table 2. Points for Access to Diverse Uses

Walk Score	Proximity to Uses	Points
≥60 to <70	≥8 to <10	1
≥70	≥10	2

Table 3. List of Diverse Uses

Category	Food Retail	Community-Serving Retail	Services	Civic and Community Facilities	Community Anchor Uses
Use Types	• Supermarket • Grocery with produce section	• Convenience store • Farmers market • Hardware store • Pharmacy • Other retail	• Bank • Family entertainment venue (e.g., theater, sports) • Gym, health club, exercise studio • Hair care • Restaurant, café, diner (no drive thru—only locations) • Laundry, dry cleaner	• Adult or senior care (licensed) • Childcare (licensed) • Cultural arts facility (museum, performing arts) • Educational institution (K–12 through higher education) • Government office that serves public on-site • Medical clinic or office that treats patients • Place of worship • Police or fire station • Post office • Public library • Public park • Social services center • Open community spaces, such as squares and plazas	• Commercial office

AND/OR

Option 3. Public Transit Availability (1 point)

Demonstrate that each CCC has at least two transit stops/stations from different routes served by at least 72 weekdays trips and 30 weekend trips (per direction) or has a transit score of 60 or greater.

NB CREDIT: LAND USE AND PLANNING POLICY

NBc7

1 point

Intent

To adopt zoning policies that enable equitable and sustainable development, thereby reducing negative impacts of urban sprawl and enabling a more livable and healthier environment for people.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1
Option 1. Responsible Land Use Policies	1
OR	
Option 2. Adoption of Transfer of Development Rights Program (TDR)	1
OR	
Option 3. Zoning Advancement	1

Option 1. Responsible Land Use Policies (1 point)

Meet one of the following requirements:

- Adopt city-wide policies/regulations or provide incentives to develop and reuse infill, previously developed, and/or grayfield sites.
- Adopt policies that provide density and/or height bonuses for infill development located within a 400-meter radius of transit stations or walkable mixed-use areas (including compact and complete centers as identified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment*).
- Adopt city-wide policies on environmental conservation that protect local water bodies through appropriate wetland, stream, and shoreline buffer widths; adjacent land uses; and permanent land conservation.
- Adopt land use strategies or development regulations that protect or expand working lands in the city, such as agricultural protection overlay districts, urban growth boundaries, community land trusts, and right-to-farm laws.

OR

Option 2. Adoption of Transfer of Development Rights Program (TDR) (1 point)

Adopt a publicly administered TDR program for one of the following initiatives:

- a. Preservation of historic buildings, landmarks, and streetscapes in urban areas
- b. Protection of farmland and rural areas from development
- c. Protection of environmentally sensitive areas from development
- d. Enhance urban form, public realm quality, and transit-oriented development outcomes for planned growth areas

OR

Option 3. Zoning Advancement (1 point)

Adopt one of the following zoning reform strategies:

- a. **Inclusionary Zoning:** Adopt ordinances that require developers to include affordable housing units in new projects.
- b. **Legalization of Accessory Dwelling Units:** Adopt a program for approving accessory dwelling unit plans that comply with local planning, land use, and zoning regulations.
- c. **Rezoning:** Adopt zoning regulations that permit higher density housing options, such as townhouses and multifamily dwellings, to be built in areas previously zoned for only single-family homes.

NB CREDIT: CIVIC LEADERSHIP—ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND INCENTIVES

NBc8

1–3 points

Intent

To demonstrate leadership by promoting responsible green practices in the design, construction, and improvement of spaces to support healthier, more sustainable living.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–3
Option 1. Certification for City-Occupied Buildings	1–2
AND/OR	
Option 2. Green Building Policy and Incentives	1–2
AND/OR	
Option 3. Sustainable Lands Certification	1–2
Path 1: Performance Pathway	1
OR	
Path 2: Prescriptive Pathway	1
AND/OR	
Option 4. Zero Waste Certification	1
Path 1: Performance Pathway	1
OR	
Path 2: Prescriptive Pathway	1

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 3 points.

Option 1. Certification for City-Occupied Buildings (1–2 points)

Demonstrate city-owned buildings and city-occupied buildings/spaces are registered and/or certified to LEED v4 or a later version. Points are awarded per Table 1.

Table 1. Points for LEED Certification

LEED Registered/Certified Buildings/Spaces	Points
≥5% to <10%	1
≥10%	2

Include all spaces/buildings that are more than 10,000 square feet (929 square meters) and occupied at the time of registration for the LEED Cities program.

AND/OR

Option 2. Green Building Policy and Incentives (1–2 points)

PATH 1: POLICIES (2 POINTS):

Adopt any one of the following policies:

- a. Policy requiring all city-occupied new construction and major renovations greater than 25,000 square feet (2,323 square meters) to achieve LEED or an equally stringent green building certification.
- b. Policy requiring all private residential and/or nonresidential new construction and major renovations greater than 25,000 square feet (2,323 square meters) to achieve LEED or an equally stringent green building certification.
- c. Policy requiring all existing private residential and nonresidential buildings greater than 25,000 square feet (2,323 square meters) to achieve LEED or an equally stringent green building certification.

AND/OR

PATH 2: INCENTIVES (1–2 POINTS):

Provide two of the following incentives for project pursuing/achieving LEED or an equally stringent green building certification. Each incentive is worth 1 point:

- a. Expedited review or permitting processes.
- b. Density and/or height bonus allowing for percentage increases in floor area ratio or other measures of density contingent upon achieving certification.
- c. Tax credits contingent upon achieving certification.
- d. Permitting fee reductions or waivers.

AND/OR

Option 3. Sustainable Lands Certification (1 point)

PATH 1: PERFORMANCE PATHWAY (1 POINT):

Demonstrate that 10% of city-owned and city-operated parks and open spaces that are more than 2,000 square feet (185 square meters) are registered and/or certified to SITES v2.

OR

PATH 2: PRESCRIPTIVE PATHWAY (1 POINT):

Meet the following requirements:

- a. Adopt policy requiring all new city-operated and/or managed parks and open spaces greater than 2,000 square feet (185 square meters) to achieve SITES or an equally stringent sustainable land design and development certification.
- b. Provide incentives to all private properties achieving SITES or an equally stringent land design and development certification.

AND/OR

Option 4. Zero Waste Certification (1 point)

PATH 1: PERFORMANCE PATHWAY (1 POINT):

Demonstrate that 10% of city-owned and city-occupied buildings that are greater than 5,000 square feet (465 square meters) are certified to TRUE.

OR

PATH 2: PRESCRIPTIVE PATHWAY (1 POINT):

Meet the following requirements:

- a. Adopt policy requiring at least 25% (by floor area) of city-occupied buildings greater than 5,000 square feet (465 square meters) achieve TRUE or an equally stringent zero waste certification.
- b. Provide incentives to the properties achieving TRUE or an equally stringent zero waste certification.

Notes:

- The rating systems must include an independent third-party review/assessment and build on a consensus-based development process.
- The registration/certification must remain valid at least through the time of registration for the LEED Cities program.
- The list of registered and/or certified projects must be publicly available.

COMMUNITY WELL-BEING (CW)

CW CREDIT: HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

CWc1

1–2 points

Intent

To expand safe, affordable, and accessible housing options for low- and moderate-income households by identifying local challenges and advancing policies, investments, and planning.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Comprehensive Housing Policies and Programs	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. Housing Costs	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. Affordable Housing Production	1

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Comprehensive Housing Policies and Programs (1 point)

Adopt city-wide comprehensive housing policies and programs that address four of the elements from the list below:

- Land policies ensuring transparency, fairness, and equitable balance toward achieving housing for all.
- Policies to assess and address the risk of displacement for new projects.
- Programs, including retrofit programs, supporting or incentivizing safe and healthy housing standards for both rental and owner-occupied units aligning with applicable codes and standards.
- Programs to incentivize or subsidize affordable housing in transit-served areas and/or identified Compact and Complete Centers in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment*.
- Programs or policies that incentivize higher density (16 DU per acre) within ¼ mile (400 meters) of walking distance to public transit stations.

- f. Programs to preserve and maintain existing subsidized and unsubsidized affordable rental housing in transit-served areas, compact and mixed-use areas, and areas with rapidly rising housing costs.
- g. Tenant protection regulations to establish rent control and just-cause requirements for evictions.

AND/OR

Option 2. Housing Costs (1 point)

Demonstrate that at least 70% of households in the city spend less than 45% of their income on combined housing and transportation.

AND/OR

Option 3. Affordable Housing Production (1 point)

Demonstrate that at least 5% of all newly produced units are affordable for households earning at or below 80% of the area median income in the reporting year. The selected reporting year must fall within the last five years.

CW CREDIT: SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

CWc2

1–2 points

Intent

To provide facilities and services that help residents meet their basic social needs, support human development, and strengthen adaptive capacity and social cohesion to enhance community resilience.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Equitable Access to Priority Social Infrastructure	1–2
Path 1. Priority Assets and Services	2
AND/OR	
Path 2. Community Venue	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. Community Safety	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. Housing Support	1

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Equitable Access to Priority Social Infrastructure (1–2 points)

PATH 1. PRIORITY ASSETS AND SERVICES (2 POINTS)

Demonstrate that any four social infrastructure assets or services identified under the topic Healthcare and Social Infrastructure in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment* are as accessible to two or more *priority neighborhoods* as they are to the city as a whole.

OR

PATH 2. COMMUNITY VENUE (1 POINT)

Demonstrate that at least 80% of residents live within a one-mile (1,600-meter) radius of a community venue, such as a park, library, community center, convention center, or theater, that offers free services and/or events and is publicly accessible.

AND/OR

Option 2. Community Safety (1 point)

Demonstrate an integrated public safety approach by meeting two of the following requirements:

- a. Implement programs on community-based violence, interruption mental health crisis response, and/or unarmed emergency teams.
- b. Invest in neighborhood-level strategies to improve perceived safety after dark.
- c. Implement programs/initiatives such as establishing a civilian oversight committee, participatory budgeting for safety investments, and community survey programs to increase trust and accountability between residents and public safety institutions.

AND/OR

Option 3. Housing Support (1 point)

Meet two of the following requirements to provide housing and support services for unhoused populations as identified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment*:

- a. Provision of short-term emergency shelter for at least 90% of the unhoused population during peak demand periods, such as winter or summer months, for at least one year within the last five years.
- b. Transitional housing programs for individuals that offer time-limited, supportive housing as a bridge between shelters and permanent housing.
- c. Permanent housing solutions developed or coordinated in partnership with nongovernmental service providers.
- d. Short-term and transitional housing options accessible to families with children under the age of 18.

CW CREDIT: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

CWc3

1–3 points

Intent

To promote all communities equitably, especially historically marginalized or overburdened, by reducing pollution, exposure to hazards, and climate risks through proactive planning, engagement, and accountability.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–3
Option 1. Reduction of Exposure Over Time	2
OR	
Option 2. Implementation of New Interventions	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. Addressing Heat Stress	2
Path 1. Tree Equity	2
AND/OR	
Path 2. Heat Island Reduction	2

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 3 points.

Option 1. Reduction of Exposure Over Time (2 points)

Identify at least one *priority neighborhood* from *IPp2 Human Impact Assessment* that is affected by a *prioritized risk* identified in *IPp4: Resilience Assessment* and show reduction by meeting two of the strategies listed below.

- Implement structural and/or engineered solutions in compliance with national, state, or local standards to reduce the impact from at least one *prioritized risk* identified in *IPp4: Resilience Assessment*.
- Adopt risk-informed zoning policies that address the identified *prioritized risk*. The policies could include but are not limited to focus on the location of critical facilities, protective setbacks, and development standards/restrictions.
- Incorporate structure resilience requirements in building regulations to reduce potential damage from identified *prioritized risks*.

- d. Provide voluntary relocation support for at-risk populations residing in hazard-prone areas.
Ensure sufficient infrastructure in destination areas to support relocated populations.

Verify that the key demographic characteristics in the selected *priority neighborhood* have remained five percentage points of preintervention levels. Describe the process used to engage these neighborhoods in reducing exposure.

AND/OR

Option 2. Implementation of New Interventions (1 point)

Implement a new environmental hazard mitigation policy in at least one *priority neighborhood* identified in *IPp2 Human Impact Assessment*. The policy must address at least one *prioritized risk* identified in *IPp4 Resilience Assessment* and include stakeholder engagement processes, formal anti-displacement measures, and metrics for evaluating future impacts.

AND/OR

Option 3. Heat Stress Reduction (2 points)

PATH 1. TREE EQUITY (2 POINTS)

Evaluate the tree canopy coverage for the city and identify census blocks ranked by the tool as high and highest priority. Demonstrate at least 10% improvement in canopy cover in the reporting year from a user-defined baseline year for any two *priority neighborhoods* identified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment* that overlap at least 50% of the area of the high and highest-priority census blocks. The selected baseline year must fall within the last five years.

OR

PATH 2. HEAT ISLAND REDUCTION (2 POINTS)

Identify urban heat island hotspots within the city. Select any two *priority neighborhoods* identified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment* that overlap at least 50% of the area of one or more of the identified urban heat island hotspots. Meet one of the following requirements in these neighborhoods:

- a. Adopt strategies to mitigate the heat island effect such as increasing tree canopy, using cool roofs/pavements/green roofs, and increasing permeable/vegetated surfaces.
- b. Establish heat wave response actions that reduce exposure and health impacts during extreme heat such as early warning systems, provision of cooling shelters, public hydration and shade, and worker protection policies.

CW CREDIT: PUBLIC HEALTH

CWc4

1–2 points

Intent

To improve community health outcomes by identifying key public health risks and implementing initiatives that reduce disparities and address environmental and social determinants of health.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Public Health Dashboard	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. Integrating Environmental Health Priorities Into Sustainability Actions	1–2
Path 1. Community Health Improvement	1
AND/OR	
Path 2. Reduction in Disparities	2
AND/OR	
Option 3. Food and Nutrition	1

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Public Health Dashboard (1 point)

Host a publicly accessible online dashboard that displays the health status indicators identified in the *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment* and their alignment with relevant city policies, strategies, and programs. Provide five years of historical data and demonstrate that the dashboard tracks annual progress.

AND/OR

Option 2. Integrating Environmental Health Priorities Into Sustainability Actions (1–2 points)

Identify five key population health needs in *priority neighborhoods* that align with local public health priorities and are plausibly influenced by changes to the built and/or natural environment. Demonstrate how a policy, plan, program, and/or other action has led to meeting the following requirements:

PATH 1. COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT (1 POINT)

Demonstrate 10% city-wide improvement in one health status indicator from a user-defined baseline year. The selected baseline year must fall within the last five years.

OR

PATH 2. REDUCTION IN DISPARITIES (2 POINTS)

Meet the following requirements:

- a. Comply with Path 1
- b. Demonstrate that any two *priority neighborhoods* and/or *populations* are within 5% of the city-wide average for the same health status indicator.
- c. Verify that key population characteristics have remained within five percentage points of preintervention levels within the last five years.

AND/OR

Option 3. Food and Nutrition (1 point)

Adopt and implement city-wide policy or programs that support food access and community nutrition by addressing one of the following strategies:

- a. Affordable and healthy food access and nutrition programs in low-income neighborhoods
- b. Free or reduced school lunch offered throughout the year to all students
- c. Procurement policy for healthy and fresh food, which includes all food purchased and served at public institutions, such as schools and hospitals, or public events
- d. Policy or program that promotes the creation of fresh food retail initiatives

CW CREDIT: EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY AND ATTAINMENT

CWc5

1–2 points

Intent

To achieve equitable attainment of quality education from birth to adulthood and increase opportunities to enter the workforce upon graduation.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Early Learning Proficiency	2
AND/OR	
Option 2. High School Education	2
AND/OR	
Option 3. Support Programs to Improve Retention and Improving Graduation Rates	1

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Early Learning Proficiency (2 points)

Meet the following requirements:

- Demonstrate that at least 85% of third-grade public school students meet minimum proficiency scores in mathematics or reading.
- Demonstrate that the corresponding score in any two *priority neighborhoods* identified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment* is within five percentage points of the city-wide third-grade public school proficiency score for the same subject.

Provide data for a year that is within the last five years.

AND/OR

Option 2. High School Education (2 points)

Meet the following requirements:

- Demonstrate achievement of a 90% average four-year adjusted cohort high school graduation rate for all students in all schools.

- b. Demonstrate that the graduation rate in schools serving any two *priority neighborhoods* identified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment* is within five percentage points of the city-wide graduation rate.

Provide data for a year that is within the last five years.

AND/OR

Option 3. Support Programs to Improve Retention and Improving Graduation Rates (1 point)

Demonstrate city-wide adoption of three of the following strategies. Elaborate on how these strategies are implemented in one or more *priority neighborhoods* identified by *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment*:

- a. Provide summer learning programs for students who need academic assistance and support outside of the school year.
- b. Provide after-school activities, tutoring, and/or extended day programs for students who need additional academic assistance outside of the school day.
- c. Offer alternative learning options and programs for students who reengage with the district education system.
- d. Provide no-cost full-day prekindergarten and kindergarten for students in school districts serving *priority neighborhoods* or within at least 75% of all public schools.
- e. Provide local funding, policies, or other supporting services to support a comprehensive early childhood education ecosystem in the city that prioritizes the needs of low- to moderate-income households.

CW CREDIT: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

CWc6

1–2 points

Intent

To promote a diverse and skilled workforce by providing expanded educational and training opportunities that enhance employment readiness.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Postsecondary Education	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. Employment Distribution	2
AND/OR	
Option 3. Career Assistance and Support Programs	1

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Postsecondary Education (1 point)

Demonstrate that the postsecondary educational attainment of the city population aged 25 years and older in any two *priority neighborhoods* identified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment* is within five percentage points of the overall city average. Provide data for a year that is within the last five years.

AND/OR

Option 2. Employment Distribution (2 Points)

Meet the following requirements:

- Demonstrate that the overall unemployment rate is trending toward or has reached the national definition of full employment.
- Demonstrate that the unemployment rate in any two priority neighborhoods and/or priority populations identified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment* is within five percentage points of the overall city unemployment rate.

Provide data for a year that is within the last five years.

AND/OR

Option 3. Career Assistance and Support Programs (1 point)

Demonstrate city-wide adoption of two of the following strategies. Implement the same strategies in at least one *priority neighborhood* identified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment*:

- a. Support the school-to-career transition through internships, mentoring, and technical training.
- b. Provide vocational training opportunities to improve career possibilities.
- c. Establish workforce development programs that connect residents to quality jobs through training, apprenticeships, career counseling, or employer partnerships.
- d. Support job placement and employer partnership programs such as dedicated liaisons, targeted outreach, and hiring events.
- e. Provide supporting services for job seekers such as transportation assistance, childcare support, interview attire assistance, and upskilling initiatives.
- f. Implement green workforce development initiatives such as grants/partnership agreements with local institutions for upskilling/training.

CW CREDIT: ECONOMIC GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY

CWc7

1–2 points

Intent

To promote inclusive economic development by expanding access to quality jobs, entrepreneurship, and community wealth building; reducing barriers; and supporting long-term prosperity for all communities.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Equitable Income Distribution	2
OR	
Option 2. Local Businesses and Hiring Practices	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. Strategies to Strengthen Economic Prosperity	1

Comply with any of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Equitable Income Distribution (2 points)

Meet the following requirements:

- Demonstrate that the median earnings of workers in any two *priority neighborhoods* and/or two *priority populations* identified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment* are within five percentage points of the overall city median income value.
- Demonstrate that the overall median income is trending toward or has achieved the local definition of living wage.

Provide data for a year that is within the last five years.

OR

Option 2. Local Businesses and Hiring Practices (1 point)

Adopt two of the following strategies:

- a. Promote and participate in project labor agreements, community benefits agreements, and local hiring agreements.
- b. Provide job training and assistance programs tailored to the needs of the local workforce and small businesses.
- c. Provide focused support, resources, and services to locally owned, early-stage companies and small businesses through business incubators.
- d. Establish a city-supported marketplace program such as a farmers' market or art fair to help promote local businesses and provide infrastructure for circular economies to take root.

AND/OR

Option 3. Strategies to Strengthen Economic Prosperity (1 point)

Demonstrate city-wide adoption of two of the following strategies. Implement the same strategies in at least one *priority neighborhood* and/or *priority population* identified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment*:

- a. Appoint an advisory body representing the business community to collaborate on economic equity and advise the city on business trends, conditions, and activities.
- b. Provide financial literacy, money management, and banking programs or services for low-income residents.
- c. Support youth savings initiatives focused on creating access to long-term savings opportunities for students within the school district.
- d. Implement a local consumer financial protection agency or initiative that helps shield residents from unfair and deceptive practices in the consumer marketplace.
- e. Expand access to tax credits by providing education and resources to ensure eligible families are aware of and claim available benefits.

CW CREDIT: CIVIC LEADERSHIP—PLANNING AND SOCIAL SUPPORT

CWc8

1–2 points

Intent

To improve the well-being, safety, and quality of life for residents, especially historically underserved communities, through fair access to resources, strengthened governance, and fair planning and policy.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Equity, Civil Rights, and Reparative Planning	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. Environmental Justice Leadership	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. Institutional Capacity and Workforce Development	1

Meet any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Equity, Civil Rights, and Reparative Planning (1 point)

Meet all of the following requirements to protect civil rights, advance equity, and promote a just quality of life for all residents:

- Adopt an official city mission statement or policy affirming a commitment to nondiscrimination in employment, housing, and city services on the basis of key demographic data, and gender identity, or expression.
- Adopt policies that promote and protect the voting rights of all eligible residents. Demonstrate the initiative to expand access, prevent disenfranchisement, and ensure equitable civic participation.
- Establish a designated civil rights authority tasked with upholding antidiscrimination laws, addressing complaints, and advancing equity-focused programs.

AND/OR

Option 2. Environmental Justice Leadership (1 point)

Demonstrate sustained civic action to embed environmental justice (EJ) into the city's planning and decision-making processes by implementing two of the following strategies:

- a. Collaborate with community members to integrate place-based EJ criteria and priorities into zoning, land use, permitting, and planning decisions. Demonstrate how these align *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment* and *IPp2: Resilience Assessment* findings.
- b. Support an EJ collaborative group or a similar body composed of community-based organizations and residents, including representation from at least two *priority populations* identified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment*. Formally incorporate the group into governmental planning and decision-making processes.
- c. Support community benefit agreements or antidisplacement strategies for new development or infrastructure projects with potential equity, EJ, or gentrification concerns.
- d. Demonstrate active monitoring and enforcement of environmental regulations that apply to existing public or private facilities contributing to environmental burdens in at least two *priority neighborhoods*.

AND/OR

Option 3. Institutional Capacity and Workforce Development (1 point)

Support long-term equity and inclusion in planning, decision-making, and service delivery by implementing two of the following strategies for city staff and employees:

- a. Provide biannual training for staff and leadership on equity, accessibility, trauma-informed service, and/or EJ.
- b. Offer resources and support systems, such as mental health resources, caregiving accommodation, and multilingual services for staff well-being.
- c. Establish equity-focused roles, liaisons, or interdepartmental teams that inform planning and policy decisions.
- d. Maintain internal accountability systems or tools, such as performance metrics, audits, and review protocols, to assess how governance practices reflect stated equity and sustainability goals.

TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY (TM)

TM PREREQUISITE: TRANSPORTATION DATA REPORTING

TMp1

REQUIRED

Intent

To facilitate the identification of opportunities to promote nonmotorized transportation, increase multi-occupant vehicle travel, and encourage use of public transit by assessing travel patterns.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	N/A
Modal Split	
AND	
Vehicle Distance Traveled (VDT) Data	

Modal Split

Report modal split data for 12 consecutive months within the last five years, showing the percentage of commuting to work trips using the following modes:

- Drive alone
- Public transport
- Walk
- Bicycle
- Carpool/vanpool
- Taxi or ride-hailing services
- Work from home
- Other transportation modes

AND

Vehicle Distance Traveled (VDT) Data

Report the daily VDT per capita data for all passenger vehicles within the city. Total VDT must be calculated for 12 consecutive months within the last five years.

TM CREDIT: TRANSPORTATION PERFORMANCE

TMc1

1–4 points

Intent

To recognize and reward cities' efforts in promoting nonmotorized transportation, encouraging use of public transit, reducing congestion, and curbing pollution from the transportation sector.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–4
Option 1. Modal Split	1–2
AND/OR	
Option 2. Vehicle Distance Traveled (VDT) Data	1–2

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 4 points.

Option 1. Modal Split (1–2 points)

Refer to *TMp1: Transportation Data Reporting* for associated requirements. No further data entry or calculations are required for this credit. Points are awarded per Table 1.

Table 1. LEED Points for Modal Split Performance

Drive Alone Modal Split Score	Points
>60% to ≤80%	1
≤60%	2

AND/OR

Option 2. Vehicle Distance Traveled (VDT) Data (1–2 points)

Refer to *TMp1: Transportation Data Reporting* for associated requirements. No further data entry or calculations are required for this credit. Points are awarded per Table 2.

Table 2. LEED Points for VDT Performance

VDT Data Score (Miles per Person per Day)	Points
>20 to ≤35	1
≤20	2

TM CREDIT: SAFE AND AFFORDABLE PUBLIC TRANSIT SERVICES

TMc2

1–2 points

Intent

To encourage improvement in public transit systems and operations to ensure better accessibility, equity, and safety of all transit users.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Transit Efficiency	2
OR	
Option 2. Transportation Equity	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. Transportation Safety	1

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Transit Efficiency (2 points)

Demonstrate at least 60% of the population resides within a ½-mile (800-meter) radius of high-frequency transit or a ¼-mile (400-meter) radius of transit stops.

AND

Demonstrate a 5% improvement in the public transport services for one of the following metrics from a user-defined baseline year. The selected baseline year must fall within the last five years:

- Annual ridership per capita
- Number of lines/routes
- Miles of network length per million population
- Number of vehicles per million population

OR

Option 2. Transportation Equity (1 point)

Adopt city-wide policies to allocate dedicated funding for public transit improvements in any two *priority neighborhoods* identified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment* to ensure equitable access to efficient and affordable transportation options.

AND

Provide one of the following benefits to achieve affordable fare structure for commuters with low income:

- a. **Concession Fares:** Offer reduced fares for children, students, seniors, and/or persons with disability.
- b. **Subscription Passes:** Provide discounted weekly, monthly, or multitrip passes for commuters.
- c. **Fare Capping:** Implement a daily or monthly fare cap to limit the total cost of travel for regular commuters.
- d. **Fare Compatibility:** Enable fare payment across multiple modes for intermodal journeys using the same payment medium.

AND/OR

Option 3. Transportation Safety (1 point)

Meet the following requirements:

- a. Demonstrate a 10% total reduction in pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities and severe injuries from a user-defined baseline year. The selected baseline year must fall within the last five years.
- b. Demonstrate a 10% total reduction in vehicular fatalities and severe injuries from a user-defined baseline year. The selected baseline year must fall within the last five years.

AND

Adopt city-wide Vision Zero strategies to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries and increase healthy and equitable mobility for all.

TM CREDIT: ELECTRIC VEHICLES

TMc3

1–2 points

Intent

To reduce transportation-related pollution and the environmental impact of transportation while improving public health by promoting electric vehicles.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Electric Vehicle Transportation Infrastructure	1–2
AND/OR	
Option 2. Electric Vehicle Charging Facilities	2

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Electric Vehicle (EV) Transportation Infrastructure (1–2 Points)

Adopt two of the listed strategies to promote vehicle electrification. Each strategy is worth 1 point:

- Equitable Deployment of EV-Charging Stations:** Develop policies and programs to ensure equitable access to EV-charging infrastructure in any two *priority neighborhoods* identified in *IPp2: Human Impact Assessment*. Ensure community outreach and stakeholder feedback are incorporated in planning and siting decisions to reflect local mobility needs.
- Single-Family Residential EV Charging:** Require all new one- or two-family developments with off-street parking to provide at least one EV-ready space through provision of electrical panel capacity and conduit for future Level 2 electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE). Clearly demarcate and reserve these spaces for sole use by plug-in EVs.
- Commercial Development EV Charging:** Require all new commercial developments with 10 or more parking spaces to install Level 2 EVSE serving at least 5% of all parking spaces. Ensure that an additional 10% of all parking spaces are EV ready by providing sufficient electrical panel capacity, conduit, and wiring to support future Level 2 EVSE. Clearly demarcate and reserve these spaces for sole use by plug-in EVs.
- Multiunit Residential Development EV Charging:** Require all new multiunit residential developments with five or more parking spaces to install Level 2 EVSE in at least 10% of all parking spaces. Ensure that an additional 20% of all parking spaces are EV ready by providing

sufficient electrical panel capacity, conduit, and wiring to support future Level 2 EVSE. Clearly demarcate and reserve these spaces for sole use by plug-in EVs.

OR

Option 2. EV-Charging Facilities (2 points)

Demonstrate at least 20% increase in the total number of public and privately owned EV-charging stations from a user-defined baseline year. The selected baseline year must fall within the last five years.

AND

All EVSE must meet the following requirements:

- a. Provide a Level 2 charging capacity (208–240 volts) or greater
- b. Comply with the relevant regional or local standard for electrical connectors, such as *SAE J1772 (Surface Vehicle Recommended Practice): Electric Vehicle Conductive Charge Coupler* or *IEC 62196 of the International Electrotechnical Commission* for cities outside the U.S.

TM CREDIT: MOBILITY MANAGEMENT

TMc4

1–2 points

Intent

To promote alternative transportation modes, optimize traffic flow, leverage advanced technology, and improve overall travel experience through a people-centric and user-friendly transportation system.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Policy	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. Parking Management	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. Advanced Mobility Solutions	1

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Policy (1 point)

Establish a city-wide TDM policy designating a transportation management coordinator and requiring major employers to participate in city-wide TDM efforts, either through a transportation management association or a city-managed program.

AND

Adopt three of the following TDM strategies to reduce single-occupant vehicle trips available for TMA members:

- Commuter financial incentives (parking cashout and transit allowance)
- Telecommuting incentives
- Alternate scheduling (flextime, compressed work weeks)
- Car pool/van pool program and ride matching
- Enhanced pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- Shuttles from transit stations
- Proximity commuting
- Guaranteed ride home program

AND/OR

Option 2. Parking Management (1 point)

Demonstrate that city-wide parking policies exist that include three of the following strategies:

- a. **Preferential Parking:** Provide designated parking spaces for rideshare (car/van pool) vehicles.
- b. **Parking Maximums:** Regulate the amount of parking capacity allowed in all land-use zones within the city using parking maximums.
- c. **Eliminate Parking Minimums:** Adopt city-wide policy to remove minimum off-street parking requirement for all land uses.
- d. **Shared Parking:** Allow mixed-use development or shared facilities to reduce total parking requirements by demonstrating that the peak parking demand for specific land uses can be accommodated at different times (daily or seasonally).
- e. **Unbundled Parking:** Require that parking spaces be sold or rented separately from building purchases and leases in a defined area, such as a residential complex or a commercial district, where parking is managed separately.
- f. **Dynamic Parking Rates:** Set on-street parking rates dynamically by increasing prices during peak demand periods and decreasing them during off-peak times, with the objective of maintaining an average parking occupancy of 80% to 85%.

AND/OR

Option 3. Advanced Mobility Solutions (1 point)

Adopt four of the following city-wide policies or solutions to facilitate a smart and efficient transportation system:

- a. **Passenger Information System (PIS):** 80% of all transit stations and transit stops within the city are equipped with a PIS system.
- b. **Automated Speed Enforcement:** 80% of roads are equipped for automated speed enforcement; alleyways and roads not controlled by municipality/civic bodies are exempted.
- c. **Traffic Surveillance:** 80% of all transit stations and transit stops within the city are equipped with CCTVs for traffic surveillance.
- d. **Global Positioning System (GPS)/General Packet Radio Service (GPRS):** All public transit vehicles are equipped with a GPS/GPRS system.
- e. **Signal Synchronization and Transit Signal Priority:** All signals on arterial roads are synchronized or prioritized to address varying traffic flows.

- f. **Integrated Ticketing System:** 80% of all public transit systems and subsystems have an Integrated Ticketing System.
- g. **Real-Time Parking Management:** 80% of all public parking lots and multilevel parking have a real-time parking management system.
- h. **Electronic Toll Collection:** All tollbooths and plazas have an electronic toll collection system.
- i. **Radio Frequency Identification (RFID):** Adopt RFID technology for logistics and/or for all public transportation systems.

TM CREDIT: ACTIVE TRAVEL

TMc5

1–2 points

Intent

To encourage active living by promoting walking and bicycling while reducing vehicle miles traveled, carbon emissions, and congestion associated with single-occupant vehicles.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Walkability	2
OR	
Option 2. Bikeability	2
OR	
Option 3. Active Travel Policies and Programs	1

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Walkability (2 points)

Provide safe and comfortable pedestrian circulation infrastructure in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations or relevant national or local regulations for 100% of sidewalks, pedestrian street crossings, pedestrian signals, and other facilities for pedestrian circulation.

AND

Meet one of the following requirements:

- Increase the mileage of sidewalks by 5% on arterial and collector roads over a period of 10 years. Reporting year must be within the last five years.
- Provide shade with trees or permanent structures more than 40% of the total length of existing and planned sidewalks. Reporting year must be within the last five years.
- Design roads with traffic-calming measures as applicable to limit the speed per Section 1.2 in Traffic Calming ePrimer by the Federal Highway Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation or in compliance with the state or local regulations.

OR

Option 2. Bikeability (2 points)

Demonstrate that 60% of the population resides within a ¼-mile (400-meter) buffer of a bicycle network or has a Bike Score of 70 or greater.

AND

Demonstrate a 5% improvement in the bicycle infrastructure of the city for one of the following metrics from a user-defined baseline year. The selected baseline year must fall within the last five years:

- a. Miles of protected bicycle lanes per capita
- b. Miles of bicycle lanes per mile of roads
- c. Number of people within a ¼-mile (400-meter) buffer of bicycle infrastructure

AND/OR

Option 3. Active Travel Policies and Programs (1 point)

Meet one of the following requirements:

- a. Develop an active mobility network that demonstrates a clear vision for how active mobility aligns with urban development, public health, and climate-related goals.
- b. Develop and implement city-wide policies that support pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure investment to ensure equitable access for *priority neighborhoods*.
- c. Adopt city-wide policies/plans for integration of sustainable micromobility (including e-micromobility and bike share) with transit systems.

TM CREDIT: CIVIC LEADERSHIP—TRANSPORTATION AND RESILIENCE

TMc6

1–2 points

Intent

To prioritize emission reduction, active mobility, and climate resilience to support sustainable urban mobility through city-led initiatives.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Low Carbon Vehicle Program	2
OR	
Option 2. Access to Bicycle Infrastructure	2
OR	
Option 3. Transportation Resilience	1

Option 1. Low Carbon Vehicle Program (2 points)

Achieve two of the following requirements:

- Provide EVSE in 5% of total parking spaces or two parking spaces, whichever is greater across all parking facilities governed by city within city-occupied buildings. Clearly demarcate and reserve these spaces for sole use by plug-in electric vehicles (EVs).
- Designate 2% of the total number of EV parking spaces or one EV parking space, whichever is greater, for universal accessibility in all city-occupied buildings. Ensure that these spaces are nine feet (2.5 meters) wide with a five-foot (1.5-meter) access aisle and include charging station accessibility features for individuals with mobility, ambulatory, and visual limitations.
- Develop and implement a plan that mandates EVs as the default purchasing choice and ensures electrification of 50% of the existing city's light-duty vehicles fleet.
- Develop a strategy in coordination with the school district and relevant municipal agencies to establish a phased transition toward zero-emission electric buses including both school buses and all municipal fleet buses, targeting 20% fleet electrification.

- e. Municipal fleet buses and city's light-duty vehicles fleet shall include all vehicles that are city owned, city operated, or contracted by municipal agencies to deliver public transport or municipal services.

OR

Option 2. Access to Bicycle Facilities (2 points)

Provide short-term bicycle storage within 600 feet (180 meters) and long-term bicycle storage and shower facilities within 300 feet (90 meters) of walking distance from any functional entry for 75% of all city-occupied buildings per Table 1.

Long-term bicycle parking and shower facilities shall not be required where the total building floor area is less than 2,500 square feet or 232 square meters and has less than 100 regular building occupants.

Table1. Number of Spaces Required for Short-Term and Long-Term Bicycle Storage and Shower Facilities

Short-Term Storage	Long-Term Storage	Shower Facilities
2.5% of all peak visitors with four storage spaces per building	5% of all regular building occupants, with four storage spaces per building in addition to the short-term bicycle storage spaces	One shower with changing facilities for the first 100 regular building occupants and one additional shower for every 150 regular building occupants thereafter

Shared micromobility storage, bicycle-sharing stations, and/or publicly available bicycle parking can be counted for up to 50% of the required short-term and long-term storage space if it meets the maximum allowable walking distance and is not double counted.

OR

Option 3. Transportation Resilience (1 point)

Develop a city-wide transportation resilience plan by meeting the following requirements:

- a. Vulnerable Assets: Determine the vulnerability of the transportation infrastructure to any two *prioritized risks* identified in *IPp4: Resilience Assessment*.
- b. Dynamic Traffic Management: Integrate intelligent transportation systems and big data analysis to monitor, predict, and respond to disruptions.

- c. Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans: Ensure safe and unobstructed movement by identifying and maintaining clearly designated emergency evacuation routes and protocols, developed through cross-departmental collaboration.

WATER MANAGEMENT (WM)

WM Prerequisite: Water Data Reporting

WMp1

REQUIRED

Intent

To identify opportunities for water resource protection and effective management by assessing urban hydrology indicators.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	N/A
Water Consumption	
AND	
Stormwater Management Design Capacity	

Water Consumption

Measure total daily water consumption per capita within the city (in gallons/capita/day). Water consumption must be calculated for 12 consecutive months within the last five years.

$$\text{Total Per Capita Water Consumption [GPCD]} = \frac{\text{Total Annual Water Consumption [MGY]}}{(\text{Permanent Population [\#]} \times 365 [\frac{\text{days}}{\text{year}}])}$$

AND

Stormwater Management Design Capacity

Report the required minimum storm capacity design standard for the city's minor stormwater management system infrastructure (e.g., storm sewers, inlets, small culverts, and roadside ditches).

The storm capacity design standard is based on the minimum size storm event (e.g., 10-year or 25-year storm event) the system can handle with no adverse impacts, based on a 24-hour duration.

WM CREDIT: Water Performance

WMc1

1–4 points

Intent

To recognize continued improvement in the reduction of water consumption and effectiveness of stormwater management.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–4
Option 1. Water Consumption	1–2
AND/OR	
Option 2. Stormwater Management Design Capacity	1–2

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 4 points.

Option 1. Water Consumption (1–2 points)

Refer to *WMp1: Water Performance* for associated requirements. No further data entry or calculations are required for this credit. Points are awarded per Table 1.

Table 1. LEED Points for Water Consumption Performance

Daily Water Consumption per Capita (Gallons/Capita/Day)	Points
>100 to ≤150	1
≤100	2

AND/OR

Option 2. Stormwater Management Design Capacity (1–2 points)

Refer to *WMp1: Water Performance* for associated requirements. No further data entry or calculations are required for this credit. Points are awarded per Table 2.

Table 2. LEED Points for Stormwater Performance

Minimum Design Storm Capacity for Minor Stormwater Systems	Points
System design for a 10-year storm	1
System design for a 25-year storm or higher	2

WM CREDIT: WATER EFFICIENCY AND SUPPLY MANAGEMENT

WMc2

1–2 points

Intent

To protect residents' basic needs by ensuring a balanced and robust water supply through water management and use reduction strategies.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Water Balance Analysis	Required
AND	
Option 1. Water Audit	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. Water Source Capacity and Health	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. Potable Water Use Reduction and Reuse Programs	1

Water Balance Analysis

Compile a comprehensive city-wide water balance analysis using data for 12 consecutive months within the last five years. Report on the annual volume of water inputs, outputs, and potable water sources as defined below:

1. Water Inputs (Supply)

Quantify the total volume of water supplied through various sources, including but not limited to:

- Precipitation
- Imported water (potable and treated/nonpotable)
- Surface water inflow
- Groundwater inflow
- Other water storage increases (changes in soil moisture, aquifers, water bodies, and storage tanks unaccounted for in the above sources)

2. Water Outputs (Discharge and Loss)

Quantify the total volume of water outputs from various sources, including but not limited to:

- Building wastewater/sewage (from all uses such as residential, commercial, institutional,

- and industrial buildings in the public and private sectors)
- b. Landscape irrigation
- c. Evapotranspiration
- d. Stormwater discharge (surface runoff exiting the city)
- e. Water losses (including pipe leaks, bursts, and unauthorized consumption)
- f. Other water storage decreases (changes in soil moisture, aquifers, water bodies, and storage tanks unaccounted for in the above sources)

3. Potable Water Demand and Sources

Identify the city's annual potable water demand and sources, including the quantity derived from each source.

AND

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Water Audit (1 point)

Conduct a water audit for 12 consecutive months within the last five years to meet the following requirements:

- a. Evaluate the water distribution system to assess the condition and capacity of the water supply infrastructure, leak detection, and pressure management.
- b. Identify strategies for improving system efficiency.
- c. Establish protocols for regular monitoring of water usage and system performance.

AND/OR

Option 2. Water Source Capacity and Health (1 point)

Using the water balance calculation, demonstrate that the city has reliable and secure water sources that can support the population's needs, including growth projections, for the next 10 years from the user-defined baseline year. The selected baseline year must fall within the last five years. Meet one of the following requirements:

- a. Demonstrate that the projected average annual water source extraction for the next 10 years will be less than the naturally occurring recharge rate in the baseline year.
- b. If the current or future use exceeds the baseline year recharge rate, implement a viable surface or aquifer recharge system (using surface or treated wastewater) that replenishes or exceeds extraction volumes on an annual basis for each of the next 10 years.

AND/OR

Option 3: Potable Water Use Reduction and Reuse Programs (1 point)

Meet one of the following requirements to demonstrate that the city is proactively supporting potable water-saving practices:

- a. Conservation-oriented billing rates that incentivize lower water use and/or integrate demand-based pricing.
- b. Landscape irrigation policies and/or programs that reduce potable water use for irrigation by 25% during critical periods.
- c. City-wide industrial water reuse policy that enables “fit-for-purpose” on-site reuse.
- d. City-wide on-site water reuse policy requires projects meeting city-defined criteria to reuse gray water on-site for toilet flushing, irrigation, and/or cooling. The policy must require potable water use reduction of 25% for residential uses and 50% for commercial uses.

WM CREDIT: WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

WMc3

1–2 points

Intent

To ensure reliable access to clean drinking water, minimize water loss, improve infrastructure efficiency, and adapt to the effects of climate change.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	2
Option 1. Lead Service Line Replacement	2
OR	
Option 2. Modernized Infrastructure	2
OR	
Option 2. Water Infrastructure Resilience	2

Option 1. Lead Service Line Replacement (2 points)

Implement a lead service line replacement program that inventories and discloses all suspected public lead service lines on a publicly searchable database.

- The program must include a comprehensive plan to replace lead service pipes within a designated time frame and an awareness campaign around the dangers of lead exposure in children.
- Low-income residents with suspected lead supply lines must be provided with low-cost or no-cost test kits, along with water filters and/or alternative water sources, until replacement is complete.

OR

Option 2. Modernized Infrastructure (2 points)

Demonstrate the city's commitment to replacing inefficient, aging, or unsafe water infrastructure while fortifying it against severe weather impacts by achieving one of the following requirements:

- For locales with combined sewer systems, implement diversion systems or combined pipe separation plans that would prevent future overflows based on 100-year storm events.
- Demonstrate that advanced wastewater treatment facilities and practices have been used to ensure all the city's treated water surpasses standard practice.
- Adopt an automated water supply management system that supports real-time data analysis, water pressure and quality monitoring, leak detection, and regular water audits.

OR

Option 2. Water Infrastructure Resilience (2 points)

Demonstrate that one water-related *prioritized risk* as identified under *IPp4: Resilience Assessment* has been significantly mitigated through investment in resilient infrastructure constructed within the last 10 years. The infrastructure must be designed to address forecasted climate impacts for 10 years beyond the date of project completion.

WM CREDIT: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

WMc4

1–2 points

Intent

To reduce flooding risks, recharge local water sources, and protect natural systems, while providing accessible green infrastructure for the community.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Green Stormwater Infrastructure	1–2
Path 1. Performance Pathway	2
OR	
Path 2. Prescriptive Pathway	1–2
AND/OR	
Option 2. Stormwater Management Policy and Planning	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. Stormwater Management Monitoring Network	1

Comply with any of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Green Stormwater Infrastructure (1–2 points)

PATH 1. PERFORMANCE PATHWAY (2 POINTS)

Demonstrate that 40% of the city's land area consists of pervious surfaces and/or surfaces managed through green stormwater infrastructure. Provide data for a year that is within the last five years.

To be eligible, impervious surfaces treated with green stormwater infrastructure must manage the first inch of rainfall and have a maintenance plan in place to ensure ongoing effectiveness.

OR

PATH 2. PRESCRIPTIVE PATHWAY (1–2 POINTS)

Demonstrate that all public and private development and redevelopment projects are required to comply with stormwater design standards that incorporate green stormwater infrastructure to

capture and manage the first flush runoff volume, as defined by the location's frequent storm event volume. Provide data for a year that is within the last five years. Points are awarded per Table 1.

Table 1. Points for Mandatory Green Stormwater Infrastructure Capacity Performance Standards

Percentile Storm Event	Points
80th	1
90th	2

AND/OR

Option 2. Stormwater Management Policy and Planning (1 point)

Adopt and implement city-wide policy, plan, and/or ordinance that prioritizes green stormwater infrastructure for new construction projects.

Include two of the following:

- a. Require preparation of a stormwater management plan for significant development and redevelopment activities.
- b. Ensure support through a manual that establishes criteria, specifications, and recommended practices when planning, designing, and constructing regulated sites and green stormwater infrastructure within the city.
- c. Minimum stormwater management control requirements and low-impact development standards/practices to mimic predevelopment runoff conditions by managing the first 1.5 inches of precipitation using infiltration, evapotranspiration, and rainwater harvesting. Captured rainwater should be reused on-site to the maximum extent possible and allowable by local ordinance.
- d. Requirement to implement integrated green stormwater infrastructure on city-owned buildings, parking lots, parks, streets, and other facilities to demonstrate effectiveness and performance to developers, citizens, and other relevant parties.
- e. Provision of incentives for implementing on-site and off-site green stormwater infrastructure.
- f. Dedicated funding for green stormwater infrastructure project implementation.

AND/OR

Option 3: Stormwater Management Monitoring Network (1 point)

Establish an interdisciplinary and cross-departmental stormwater management network that includes all relevant local agencies to establish and enforce preventative strategies for the mitigation of flooding and sewer overflow risks. The network must actively monitor stormwater network conditions and capacity and demonstrate successful management of all 100-year precipitation events for the location over the last five years with no significant flooding or combined sewer overflows.

WM CREDIT: CIVIC LEADERSHIP—WATER RESILIENCE AND AFFORDABILITY

WMc5

1–2 points

Intent

To ensure equitable, reliable access to safe drinking water while advancing water conservation and stormwater management through public sector leadership and government-led initiatives.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Public Education and Outreach	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. Residential Water Affordability and Efficiency	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. Emergency Preparedness and Water Access	1

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Public Education and Outreach (1 point)

Promote water conservation and quality improvement by implementing two of the following public outreach and communication initiatives. Ensure that communications are provided in the top three languages (based on population profile):

- Real-time flood monitoring and warnings, including combined sewer overflow (CSO) action alerts
- Timely public updates on recreational water quality
- Biannual awareness campaigns promoting individual and/or domestic water use reduction and responsible water practices
- Biannual programs in education institutions teaching water conservation and/or rainwater harvesting

AND/OR

Option 2. Residential Water Affordability and Efficiency (1 point)

Demonstrate affordable, efficient access to clean water by meeting one of the following requirements/strategies:

- a. Establish a water efficiency repair and/or fixture replacement assistance program for residents at or below 60% of the area median income by providing city-subsidized direct installation.
- b. Integrate water efficiency assistance and fixture replacement into other income-based-eligibility energy or home improvement programs.
- c. Use metering, billing, and/or on-site audits to identify possible leaks in low-income households and offer subsidized or fully funded repairs.
- d. Require all multiunit affordable, senior, supportive, assisted, and/or low-income housing developments to conduct regular water audits. Building owners must demonstrate required compliance and corrective actions.

AND/OR

Option 3. Emergency Preparedness and Water Access (1 point)

Develop a city-wide emergency water and sanitation plan including the following requirements:

- a. Equip critical water infrastructure with backup power to maintain treatment, pumping, or distribution during grid failures.
- b. Develop a city-wide emergency water supply and distribution plan.
- c. Demonstrate readiness to deploy a network of public portable water access points, including necessary equipment and identified locations.
- d. Provide guidance for safe sanitation management and emergency disposal locations.
- e. Ensure availability of emergency information in a variety of accessible print and digital formats, including translations in the top three languages (based on population profile) spoken in the city.

ENERGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT (EC)

EC Prerequisite: Carbon Data Reporting

ECp1

REQUIRED

Intent

To facilitate the identification of opportunities for emission reduction to minimize their impact on climate change by tracking city-wide carbon emissions.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	N/A
Carbon Data Reporting	

Use the city-wide carbon emissions data as reported in *IPp3: Carbon Assessment* and the population data for the same reporting period to calculate per capita emissions (tCO₂e per capita).

EC CREDIT: CARBON PERFORMANCE

ECc1

1–4 points

Intent

To recognize and reward cities' efforts in reducing carbon emissions to minimize their impact on climate change.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–4
Carbon Performance	1–4

Refer to *ECp1: Carbon Data Reporting* for associated requirements. No further data entry or calculations are required for this credit. Points are awarded per Table 1.

Table 1: LEED Points for Carbon Performance

Carbon Emissions per Capita (Tonnes CO ₂ e per Capita)	Points
>11 to ≤14	1
>8 to ≤11	2
>6 to ≤8	3
≤6	4

EC CREDIT: ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND DECARBONIZATION

ECc2

1–5 points

Intent

To drive improvement in energy efficiency and support long-term planning for carbon reduction of urban building stock and ensure that all residents benefit from lower energy costs and a healthier environment.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–5
Option 1. Energy Efficiency Programs	1–3
AND/OR	
Option 2. Existing Building Decarbonization	1–3
Path 1. Building Energy Disclosure	1
AND/OR	
Path 2. Strategic Decarbonization Plan	2
AND/OR	
Option 3. New Low-Carbon Building	2–4
Path 1. Building Energy Efficiency	2
AND/OR	
Path 2. Building Electrification	2

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 4 points.

Option 1. Energy Efficiency Programs (1–3 points)

Implement any of the following programs and initiatives, led by the city or in partnership with the city, targeting residents and/or businesses. Each program/initiative is worth 1 point.

- Energy code–related training and education for builders, inspectors, architects, engineers, and/or other relevant parties through two training programs annually, reaching 200 participants in total.
- Education and outreach on energy efficiency and resource conservation for building owners and managers, residents, and/or businesses through one annual event, reaching 2,000 residents/businesses in total.
- Help center on energy code and energy efficiency that provides information and directs building projects to appropriate resources.

- d. Challenge program for building portfolios (universities, hospitals, residential, and/or commercial) to reduce their carbon emissions.
- e. Loans and financing programs, such as Property Assessed Clean Energy bonds or other loans for energy efficiency retrofits and upgrades.
- f. Energy efficiency programs specifically targeted to support low-income populations in the city.

AND/OR

Option 2. Existing Building Decarbonization (1–3 points)

Path 1. BUILDING ENERGY DISCLOSURE (1 point)

Require annual benchmarking and disclosure of energy consumption (electricity, natural gas, chilled water, steam or hot water, fuel oil, propane) of all buildings in the city that are 25,000 square feet (2,323 square meters) or larger. Disclosure must be made to the public or governing entity and/or specific users of the building, such as potential buyers or lessees, prior to the signing of the contract to purchase or lease the building.

AND/OR

Path 2. STRATEGIC DECARBONIZATION PLAN (2 points)

Require existing buildings that are 25,000 square feet (2,323 square meters) or larger to create a strategic decarbonization plan (SDP) with a target to achieve 100% reduction in on-site combustion and 20% reduction in site energy within 25 years.

AND/OR

Option 3. New Low-Carbon Buildings (2–4 points)

PATH 1. BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY (2 points)

Require new construction and major renovations within the city to comply with *ASHRAE 90.1-2016* (or equivalent). Cities registering after January 1, 2028, must comply with *ASHRAE 90.1-2019* (or equivalent).

AND/OR

PATH 2. BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION (2 points)

Require new construction and major renovations within the city to be designed to be capable of operating without on-site combustion except at low temperatures (below 20°F [–6.5°C]). The requirement must address the building's space heating, service water heating, and cooking and

may exclude emergency support systems. The weighted average equipment efficiency for space heating and service water heating must be at least 1.2 COP.

2EC CREDIT: INFRASTRUCTURE ENERGY EFFICIENCY

ECc3

1–3 points

Intent

To deliver reliable, affordable, and environmentally responsible public infrastructure services to residents.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–3
Option 1. Street Lighting	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. Water and Wastewater System	1–3
Path 1. Energy and Carbon Disclosure	1
AND/OR	
Path 2. Energy Audit	1
AND/OR	
Path 3. Optimized Energy Performance	2–3

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 3 points.

Option 1. Street Lighting (1 point)

Ensure 75% of streetlights meet or exceed a luminous efficacy of 100 lumens per watt.

AND/OR

Option 2. Water and Wastewater System (1–3 points)

PATH 1. ENERGY AND CARBON DISCLOSURE (1 POINT)

Track, benchmark, and report the energy consumption and carbon emissions of water and wastewater systems within the city at intervals of at least one month. Report data by energy source for the most recent reporting year.

Include energy consumption and carbon emissions associated with the systems' operation (collection, treatment, and distribution/disposal), with optional reporting of methane leaks and flaring.

AND/OR

PATH 2. ENERGY AUDIT (1 POINT)

Conduct a detailed on-site energy audit to evaluate the existing infrastructure and operational practices and identify opportunities for energy use reduction in water and wastewater systems.

The audit report must have been issued within the last five years.

Include measurements and analysis of pumps and pumping systems, electrical systems, and electric drives to assess losses and the potential for energy efficiency improvement. Account for 50% of the processed flow capacity of the water and wastewater systems.

AND/OR

PATH 3. OPTIMIZED ENERGY PERFORMANCE (2–3 POINTS)

Demonstrate reduction in the energy intensity or carbon emission intensity (energy use or carbon emissions per unit volume of processed/treated water) of water and wastewater systems, including water supply pumping, treatment, distribution, and wastewater pumping and treatment, from a user-defined baseline year. The selected baseline year must fall within last 10 years.

For carbon emissions, optionally include emissions associated with methane leaks and flaring.

Energy consumption from water-monitoring systems can be excluded from calculations.

Points are awarded per Table 1.

Table 1. Points for Water and Wastewater Systems

Reduction (%)	Points
≥5 to <10	2
≥10	3

EC CREDIT: ENERGY-EFFICIENT CIVIC BUILDINGS

ECc4

1–3 points

Intent

To improve the energy efficiency of city-occupied buildings to reduce the environmental harm and lower the city's carbon footprint.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–3
Option 1. Energy and Carbon Tracking	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. Energy Audit	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. Existing Building Commissioning	1
AND/OR	
Option 4. Strategic Decarbonization Plan	1
AND/OR	
Option 5. Energy Efficiency	2–3

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 3 points.

Option 1. Energy and Carbon Tracking (1 point)

Track, benchmark, and report energy consumption and carbon emissions (electricity, natural gas, chilled water, steam or hot water, fuel oil, propane) of city-occupied buildings at intervals of at least once per month.

Include 75% of the total gross floor area of city-occupied buildings that are 10,000 square feet (929 square meters) or larger. Report data by energy source for the most recent reporting year.

AND/OR

Option 2. Energy Audit (1 point)

Conduct energy audits for 10% of the total gross floor area of city-occupied buildings that are 25,000 square feet (2,323 square meters) or larger.

The energy audit must have been conducted within the last five years and must meet the requirements of ASHRAE Level 2 Energy Survey and Analysis Assessment (or above) per *ASHRAE 211-2018 Standard for Commercial Building Energy Audits* or equivalent.

AND/OR

Option 3. Existing Building Commissioning (1 point)

Complete the existing building commissioning (EBCx) process for 10% of the total gross floor area of city-occupied buildings that are 25,000 square feet (2,323 square meters) or larger.

The EBCx must have been conducted within the last five years and must meet the requirements of *ASHRAE 230-2022 Commissioning Process for Existing Buildings and Systems*.

AND/OR

Option 4. Strategic Decarbonization Plan (1 point)

Develop SDPs for a representative sample of city-occupied buildings. Demonstrate that SDPs collectively cover 10% of the total gross floor area of city-operated buildings that are 25,000 square feet (2,323 square meters) or larger.

The SDPs must target 100% reduction in on-site combustion emissions and 20% reduction in site energy use within 25 years.

AND/OR

Option 5. Energy Efficiency (2–3 points)

Demonstrate a reduction in energy use intensity (site energy use or source energy use) of city-occupied buildings that are 10,000 square feet (929 square meters) or larger. Establish the baseline energy use based on historical energy consumption from a year within last 10 years. Points are awarded per Table 1.

Table 1. Points for Reduction in Energy Use

Reduction in Energy Use (%)	Points
≥8 to <15	2
≥15	3

EC CREDIT: RENEWABLE ENERGY

ECc5

1–3 points

Intent

To provide cleaner and affordable electricity by reducing environmental and economic impacts of fossil fuel use, increasing renewable energy in the grid, and supporting transition to a green economy.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–3
Option 1. Renewable Electricity Consumption	1–3
AND/OR	
Option 2. Renewable Energy Policies and Programs	1–2

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 3 points.

Option 1. Renewable Electricity Consumption (1–3 points)

Measure the share of renewable energy/electricity as a percentage of city-wide electricity consumption.

Provide data for a year that is within the last five years. Points are awarded per Table 1.

Table 1. Points for City-Wide Renewable Electricity Consumption

Renewable Energy	Points
≥10% to <20%	1
≥20% to <30%	2
≥30%	3

Procured renewable energy certificates (RECs) must meet the following criteria:

- RECs must be Green-e Energy certified or equivalent.
- All environmental attributes associated with renewable energy generation must be retired on behalf of the city.
- RECs must be purchased from renewable assets within the same country or region where the city is located.
- If RECs are purchased by the utility/energy provider serving multiple cities, these must be prorated per the city's annual energy share in the utility's generation.

AND/OR

Option 2. Renewable Energy Policies and Programs (1–2 points)

Implement city-wide policies and/or programs in partnership with entities outside the city's control, such as utilities, regulators, legislators, and independent system operators/regional transmission organizations, as appropriate to increase the share of renewables in energy supply by supporting any of the strategies given below. Each strategy is worth 1 point:

- a. Distributed renewables
- b. Midsized community solar projects
- c. Physical power purchase agreements
- d. Virtual power purchase agreements
- e. Green tariffs
- f. Community choice aggregations
- g. Renewable portfolio standards

EC CREDIT: CIVIC LEADERSHIP—ENERGY RESILIENCE AND CARBON

ECc6

1–2 points

Intent

To enhance the energy resilience of essential facilities and accelerate the reduction of carbon emissions from activities and facilities operated by the city.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Energy Resilience	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. City-Operations Climate Action Plan	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. City-Operations Carbon Performance	1–2
Path 1. Carbon Emissions Inventory	1
OR	
Path 2. Carbon Performance	2

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Energy Resilience (1 point)

Meet the following requirements:

- Identify essential facilities operated by the city that require backup power during widespread outages and determine their critical loads and minimum daily operating hours.
- Demonstrate that all identified essential facilities can be supplied with reliable backup power for at least one day.

AND/OR

Option 2. City-Operations Climate Action Plan (1 point)

Develop a city-operations climate action plan to accelerate the reduction of carbon emissions and achieve an 80% reduction in carbon emissions from city operations by 2050.

Meet the following requirements:

- a. Constitute a diverse and inclusive group of key parties, such as city staff, businesses and/or institutions, municipal and state officials, or technical experts, to gather insights and feedback.
- b. Define the geographic and/or administrative boundary of the city.
- c. Establish carbon emission reduction targets with interim and short-term goals.
- d. Report the carbon emission inventory of city operation for the base year (must include Scope 1 and Scope 2; Scope 3 is optional) with breakdown by sector and the business-as-usual projection of carbon emissions through 2050.
- e. Outline initiatives for each sector; ensure that each initiative addresses the following points:
 - o Implementation timeline
 - o Estimated impact on carbon emissions
 - o Implementation processes
 - o Estimated budget and/or required staffing
- f. Outline methods for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting the impacts of the initiatives.

AND/OR

Option 3. City-Operations Carbon Performance (1–2 points)

PATH 1. CARBON EMISSIONS INVENTORY (1 POINT)

Report carbon emissions for city operations covering Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions for 12 consecutive months within the last five years. Address the following sectors (or per the relevant local government operations GHG protocol or framework) whose activities are part of city operations:

- a. Stationary energy (buildings and facilities, streetlights)
- b. Transportation (vehicle fleet)
- c. Waste (solid waste and wastewater)

Additionally, carbon emissions from contracted services, such as contracted waste-hauling services that are typically provided by the city to the residents, must be included in the emission inventory.

Report total carbon emissions in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e), encompassing all GHG.

OR

PATH 2. CARBON PERFORMANCE (2 POINTS)

Demonstrate a 15% reduction in carbon emissions per capita from city operations from a user-defined baseline year. The selected baseline year must fall within the last 10 years. The inventory for the baseline and reporting years shall be as per *Option 3. Path 1. Carbon Emissions Inventory* requirements.

WASTE REDUCTION AND CIRCULARITY (WR)

WR PREREQUISITE: WASTE DATA REPORTING

WRp1

Required

Intent

To facilitate the identification of opportunities for effective waste management practices by assessing waste management metrics.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	NA
Municipal Solid Waste Generation	
AND	
Waste Diversion	

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Generation

Report the total weight of MSW (in tonnes per capita) generated in 12 consecutive months within the last five years.

MSW generated must include waste generation from all sectors within the city, including but not limited to residential, institutional, commercial, any other sectors, and open spaces.

AND

Waste Diversion

Report the total weight of the MSW that is diverted (as a percentage of total MSW generation) from landfills or incineration (including waste to energy) for the same 12 consecutive months as MSW generation data.

WR CREDIT: WASTE PERFORMANCE

WRc1

1–4 points

Intent

To drive progress in waste management by measuring impact and promoting circular resource flows.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–4
Option 1. Municipal Solid Waste Generation	1–2
AND/OR	
Option 2. Waste Diversion	1–2

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 4 points.

Option 1. Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Generation (1–2 points)

Refer to *WRp1: Waste Data Reporting* for associated requirements. No further data entry or calculations are required for this credit. Points are awarded per Table 1.

Table 1. LEED Points for MSW Generation Performance

MSW Generation (Tonnes per Capita)	Points
>1.5 to ≤2	1
≤1.5	2

AND/OR

Option 2. Waste Diversion (1–2 points)

Refer to *WRp1: Waste Data Reporting* or associated requirements. No further data entry or calculations are required for this credit. Points are awarded per Table 2.

Table 2. LEED Points for MSW Diversion Performance

MSW Diversion	Points
≥30% to <50%	1
≥50%	2

WR CREDIT: SPECIAL AND ORGANIC WASTE STREAMS MANAGEMENT

WRc2

1–2 points

Intent

To divert special and organic waste streams from landfills and incinerators and recover and recycle reusable materials.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Special Waste Streams Management	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. Organic Waste Management	1–2
Path 1. Residential Waste	2
OR	
Path 2. Commercial Waste	1

Comply with any of the following options for a total of up to 2 points.

Option 1. Special Waste Streams Management (1 point)

Measure and report the total weight of waste generated (hazardous waste and two special waste streams) and the total of such waste diverted from landfills or incineration. Report annual data from within the last five years.

AND

Provide details on strategies adopted for recovery/recycling of the special waste streams.

Special waste streams include all nonmunicipal solid waste generated within the city, including industrial, electronic, agricultural, chemical, biomedical, hazardous, and/or construction and demolition waste.

AND/OR

Option 2. Organic Waste Management (1–2 points)

PATH 1. RESIDENTIAL WASTE (2 POINTS):

Implement a city-wide residential composting program/policy that increases participation through provision of services or infrastructures and resident education and outreach (including multilingual materials for the top three languages based on population profile).

AND/OR

PATH 2. COMMERCIAL WASTE (1 POINT)

Identify three commercial generators, such as farmers' markets, restaurants, universities, and/or hotels, and meet the following requirements:

- a. Collaborate with nonprofit organizations and commercial partners to provide targeted support through education/training.
- b. Implement one organics recovery pilot with all three participating generators.
- c. Document the selection method, support provided, and pilot outcomes.

WR CREDIT: EMBODIED CARBON REDUCTION

WRc3

1–2 points

Intent

To strengthen the approach to purchasing, preserving, and recovering building materials to environmentally, economically, and socially preferable life-cycle impacts.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	2
Option 1. Adaptive Reuse	1
OR	
Option 2. Material-Focused Codes	1
OR	
Option 3. Material Recovery	1–2

Comply with any of the following options for a total of up to 2 points.

Option 1. Adaptive Reuse (1 point)

Implement an awareness and outreach strategy/policy to promote the adaptive reuse of existing buildings. Include the following:

- Awareness of embodied carbon benefits of reuse compared with demolition and new construction
- Guidance on change of use/occupancy and applicable code pathways
- Awareness about available zoning/design/permitting flexibility
- Training/outreach for key stakeholders, such as owners, developers, design professionals, and permitting staff

AND

Provide financial incentives and/or establish processes to advance building reuse and adaptation, such as expedited permit review, dedicated permit navigation support, streamlined permitting, or development fee reductions/waivers.

AND/OR

Option 2. Material-Focused Codes (1 point)

Adopt and implement a city-wide policy or amendment to the building code that supports either prescriptive or performance-based embodied carbon reductions in buildings and/or infrastructure projects. The policy or amendment must include whole building life-cycle assessments (WBLCA) for projects or establish embodied carbon thresholds for at least one of the following materials: concrete, steel, glass (glazing), wood, and asphalt.

AND

Commit to publishing an annual report that summarizes the embodied carbon reduction initiatives and includes quantified impact metrics demonstrating outputs and outcomes.

AND/OR

Option 3. Material Recovery (1–2 points)

Adopt and implement a city-wide policy or program to incentivize building deconstruction and salvage.

Meet one of the following requirements to earn 1 point or meet three to earn 2 points:

- a. Require a salvage assessment prior to the issuance of demolition permits.
- b. Include incentives such as grants or expedited permit reviews for whole-building deconstruction.
- c. Implement a demolition notification and delay requirement that provides public notice and a minimum 35-day waiting period before permit issuance.
- d. Adopt and implement a deconstruction requirement for applicable projects that prioritizes disassembly and salvage of materials with established or emerging regional resale/collection markets.
- e. Adopt and implement an incentive program for new construction that requires a minimum amount of material reuse.

AND

Commit to publishing an annual report that summarizes the deconstruction and salvage-related initiatives and includes quantified impact metrics demonstrating outputs and outcomes.

WR CREDIT: COMMUNITY-CENTRIC MATERIAL RECOVERY AND REUSE

WRc4

1 point

Intent

To recover high-value materials from the waste stream and enable their reuse, repair, remanufacture, repurpose, and collection to advance a circular economy.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1
Option 1. Repair/Reuse Awareness and Education	1
OR	
Option 2. Reuse Centers	1

Option 1. Repair/Reuse Awareness and Education (1 point)

Collaborate with nonprofit, trades, and commercial partners to meet two of the following requirements:

- Launch an awareness and education campaign around reuse, repair, and reimagining waste.
- Maintain a network of skilled volunteers who can repair electronics and appliances and provide clothing-alteration services.
- Conduct at least two repair-related training programs each year, reaching at least 200 participants in total annually.
- Maintain one program that accepts household items for repair/refurbishment and returns them to use through resale or redistribution.

AND

Commit to publishing an annual report that summarizes the repair/reuse initiatives and includes quantified impact metrics demonstrating outputs and outcomes.

OR

Option 2. Reuse Centers (1 point)

Establish and operate, in partnership with nonprofit and/or commercial entities, one reuse center that

offers two of the following facilities or services to support material reuse:

- a. Material drop-off services for reusable building materials and other household items
- b. Material pickup/collection services for reusable building materials and other household items
- c. Lending/borrowing facilities for household tools and equipment
- d. Storefront (physical/online) for individuals and businesses to acquire salvaged building materials
- e. Deconstruction support, such as providing salvage assessments or manual disassembly of existing structures
- f. Repairing, refurbishing, and/or remanufacturing of reusable building materials or household items

AND

Demonstrate financial and/or in-kind support, such as dedicated budget allocation and/or partner collaborations, to operate the reuse center(s) for next three years.

WR CREDIT: CIVIC LEADERSHIP—PROCUREMENT AND RESILIENCE

WRc5

1–2 points

Intent

To advance municipal sustainable procurement practices that prioritize low-carbon, reused, and repurposed materials while strengthening city-wide waste service resilience.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–2
Option 1. Sustainable Construction Procurement Policy	1
AND/OR	
Option 2. Asset Inventory Program	1
AND/OR	
Option 3. Waste Systems Resilience	1

Comply with any combination of the following options for a maximum of 2 points.

Option 1. Sustainable Construction Procurement Policy (1 point)

Demonstrate that the city has adopted a sustainable construction procurement policy applicable to city-owned construction, major renovation, and infrastructure projects with a construction budget exceeding \$1M (USD). The policy must include one of the following provisions:

- Allocate $\geq 5\%$ of the total materials budget to reused/reclaimed products and/or materials.
- Allocate $\geq 10\%$ of the total materials budget to products with third-party-verified EPDs that demonstrate below industry average embodied carbon for their product category.
- Include completion of a whole-building life cycle assessment (WBLCA) as part of the project scope and budget, consistent with *LEED BD+C v5 MRc2 Reduce Embodied Carbon*.

AND

Commit to publishing an annual report that summarizes the city's sustainable construction purchasing activities and includes quantified impact metrics demonstrating outputs and outcomes.

AND/OR

Option 2. Asset Inventory Program (1 point)

Establish and maintain a digital inventory of all surplus city-owned furniture, demountable partitions, and other reusable assets. Meet the following requirements:

- a. Include data on make, model, date of purchase, condition, and current location for each item.
- b. Ensure periodic updates to reflect the availability of assets.
- c. Generate annual reports on the program's performance, including the number/quantity of items repurposed (reassigned, donated, or sold), estimated cost savings/avoidance, and waste reduction impacts.

AND/OR

Option 3. Waste Systems Resilience (1 point)

Ensure resilience in waste management systems by meeting the following requirements:

- a. Identify the vulnerability of waste infrastructure to the *prioritized risks* identified in *IPp4: Resilience Assessment*.
- b. Develop contingency plans to ensure waste pickup and collection during disaster situations.
- c. Demonstrate diversification in waste-processing methods and facility locations to ensure minimal disruption.
- d. Develop emergency waste management protocols referring to *IPp4: Resilience Assessment*.

PROJECT PRIORITIES (PR)

PROJECT PRIORITIES

PRc1

1–10 points

Intent

To promote achievement of credits that address regional environmental, social equity, and public health priorities and to encourage cities to achieve exceptional or innovative performance.

Requirements

Achievement Pathways	Points
Cities	1–10
Regional Priority	1–9
Exemplary Performance	1–9
Pilot Credits	1–9
Innovative Strategies	1–9
LEED Credentials	1

Achieve any combination of the following for a maximum of 10 points. Each option/strategy is worth 1 point.

Regional Priority

Demonstrate achievement of a credit (part of the main seven credit categories) that enables the project to achieve significant, measurable environmental, and/or social performance for a regional priority.

The project must achieve at least half the maximum points (or at least 1 point if the maximum available point in the credit is 1) available in the credit identified as regional priority to be eligible to achieve this credit.

Exemplary Performance

Achieve an exemplary performance credit from USGBC's Project Priority Library. These credits have been identified by USGBC as going above and beyond an existing LEED v5 Cities credit in the LEED v5 priority areas of scale, decarbonization, resilience, health, equity, and/or ecosystems.

Pilot Credits

Achieve a pilot credit from USGBC's Project Priority Library.

Innovative Strategies

Achieve significant, measurable social, economic, or environmental performance using a strategy not addressed in the LEED v5 Cities rating system.

Identify all the following:

- Intent of the proposed innovation strategy
- Proposed requirements for compliance
- Proposed submittals to demonstrate compliance
- The design approach or strategies used to meet the requirements

LEED Credentials

At least one principal participant of the team must be a LEED Accredited Professional (AP) with a specialty and must have achieved the LEED for Cities and Communities Pro Badge.

Appendices

APPENDIX I. LEED PLATINUM REQUIREMENTS

Achieve a total of 80 points, including at least 25% of the available points in each category per Table 1.

Table 1. Minimum Category Points To Be Achieved for Platinum

Category	Minimum Points
Integrative Planning and Preparedness	2
Natural and Built Environment	5
Community Well-Being	5
Transportation and Mobility	4
Water Management	3
Energy and Carbon Management	5
Waste Reduction and Circularity	3